Ellery Ware Ellis

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BEGINNING OF THE TWELFTH VOLUME.

With this issue the twelfth volume of THE STANDARD begins. The paper is now upon the last half of its sixth year. When it first appeared, but little was known outside of New York City of the principle reform it advocates, the single tax on land values, and free trade was a term to frighten with. Now, the single tax is understood and generally discussed over the English speaking world. In Australia it is a distinct and prominent issue in practical politics, as it is also in the capital city of England; and in the United States it has its intelligent advocates in every town, public sentiment is saturated with its principles, a bill for its moderate application in the District of Columbia is pending in Congress. it has started a tendency against the formerly prevalent tax custom of favoring land owners at the expense of improvers, in many localities single tax assessors have been elected, and, in one town, Hyattsville, Md., it has been adopted as the sole mode of local taxation. And free trade, no longer a reproachful epithet, has been re-adopted as the leading principle of one of the two great political parties. In this THE STANDARD has taken no small part, and has contributed not a little to the result. It needs only to be well supported to do a great deal more. That its circulation may be more widely extended, it will be sent to new subscribers for the remainder of the year 1892 for only fifty cents. This is an opportunity for friends of the movement at a minimum of cost, to place the paper in the hands of people who may be influenced favorably by its policy and join the ranks of regular subscribers and active workers after becoming acquainted with the paper and the cause it advocates. For the purpose of enabling new people to get an idea of what the paper and its cause are, we will take trial subscriptions for four weeks for ten cents, allowing all trial subscribers who wish to come in at fifty cents for the remainder of this year. The regular subscription price is three dollars annually. Remember, three dollars for a year, fifty cents to new subscribers for the remainder of this year, and ten cents for four weeks on trial. The wider the circulation of THE STANDARD the more general will be the knowledge of the work now being done in Congress and over the country, and the sooner will the truths we teach take their place in the legislation of the country. The circulation can be more than doubled during the campaign if present subscribers do their share of the work.

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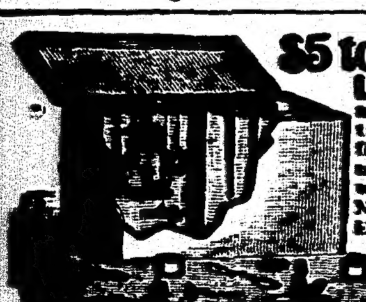

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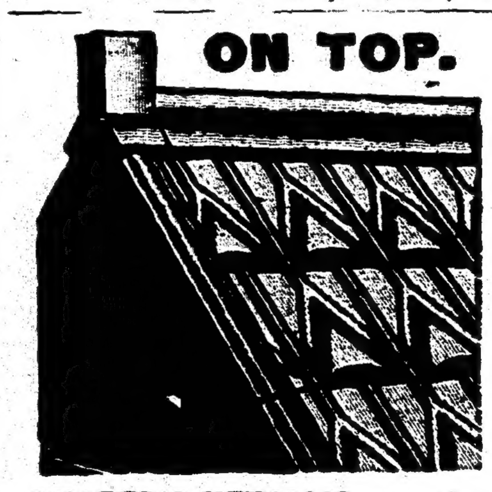

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THE STANDARD

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1903

"THE FOREIGNER PAYS THE TAX."—The British exhibitors at the Columbian Exposition are annoyed by an authoritative announcement that price cards on exhibits must state the price for which exhibitors are willing to sell for at Chicago. Could anything be more absurd? Of course price cards should show the prices at the place of exhibition, and only an irritable Briton would be annoyed at so reasonable a requirement. But suppose we listen to the Briton's explanation. He says that when he sells his goods at Chicago he must collect our tariff of the buyer; and that if the tariff is included in the price on the card it will mislead visitors from other countries as to the real price of the goods. The Briton does not appear to be such a very absurd person after all—at least in this connection. There is sense in his complaint. He might be advised, inasmuch as our tariff is a tax which he cannot collect of the American buyer, but must himself pay for the privilege of entering our markets, that there is no necessity for adding it to the price on his cards; but in his ignorance of the philosophy of protection he would probably not understand the point.

Every once in a while some object lesson like this springs up to confound the protectionists, who from occasional sales of bankrupt goods at less than cost, infer their "principle" that foreigners pay our taxes for the privilege of bringing goods to our markets. In the case of the Chicago exhibits it is clear to the dullest apprehension that if the foreigner pays the tax he must include it in the price on his cards, in which case he will sell in Chicago at higher prices than in London. It is equally clear that if he does not pay the tax, but sells at his London rate, the Chicago buyer must pay the tax before he will be allowed to remove his purchase from the exhibition grounds.

TOM JOHNSON'S IMMORALITY.—The New York Times reads a lecture to those members of Congress, led by Tom L. Johnson, who are franking the Congressional edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" in which it criticizes their conduct as morally wrong and politically unwise. The Times is not quite a paragon of morality, nor a Solomon in counsel; but inasmuch as the worst sinner may preach good morals and the veriest fool give good advice, what it has to say may be regarded as worthy of consideration, and that without implying that the Times is either the worst sinner or the veriest fool.

The immoral conduct of which these Congressmen stand accused is somewhat complex. They first split up Henry George's book, "Protection or Free Trade?" into several parts, and, in regular conformity to the rules, obtained leave of the House to print them in the Congressional Record as portions of so many speeches by as many members. They then brought the scattered parts together in the original order, and at their own expense printed them in pamphlet form as a public document. Finally, they have been mailing this document free under their franks. In what respect is this proceeding immoral?

If the owner of the copyright objected, it would be stealing; but he has not been heard to object, and it is possible that his consent was obtained at the beginning. If the rules of the House or the postal laws were violated or evaded, it would be immoral as in contravention of law; but the House has expressly decided that its rules were not violated or evaded; and the postal authorities do not interfere with the circulation of the book as they promptly would if they could. There is evidently, therefore, no infraction of rules or law, nor can it be so much as said that the spirit of the House rules or of the postal laws has been abused. The law allowing speeches to be franked was not intended solely to enable Congressmen to advertise their eloquence by circulating their own effusions free. It was intended, like the pound rates and the free rates of newspapers, for the enlightenment of the people on public questions, and that is the use that has been made of it in this instance. Never in the history of the country has a more enlightening document been franked through the mails than this same Congressional edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" Never has a public document been in such general demand.

To characterize the conduct of these Congressmen as immoral is to strain at invisible gnats, and it is not easy at first to understand the motive of the Times. But when we pass to its strictures upon the policy of the proceeding, the mystery is explained. The Times has found something in "Protection or Free Trade?" with which it does not agree. It is that that makes the circulation of the document impolitic and stamps the conduct of Johnson and his colesgues as immoral. The same motive will be found beneath every condemnation of this enterprise, from the wild editorials of the protection press to the gentle grief of that old pri-slavery Democrat whose distorted conscience forbade his franking the document to his constituents. They fear what the book teaches, and the effect of its wide circulation.

As to the policy of distributing the book, about which the Times complains, it need give itself no further concern. Congressmen who are willingly franking it to their constitutents know as well as the Times does what will help them with the people of their districts. Some of them know that they are cultivating a sound public sentiment, and all of them know that they are making votes. It was this book that brought Tom L. Johnson within 600 votes of election to Congress from an overwhelming Republican district four years ago, that gave him 3,500 majority two years ago in a district in which the regular Democratic majority was only 1,500, and that will re-elect him this year from a district in which the Republican majority last fall was 2,000. It is this book that will establish Wisconsin in the Democratic column, and bring over Illinois and Minnesota, and that if freely used in Pennsylvania, will rescue that protection-ridden State from the grasp of its Carnegies. The Democratic committee may be persuaded against circulating the book, but others than the Democratic committee will be prepared in this campaign to do any good work which the committee leaves undone. The Democratic party cannot again be bound hand and foot by a packed committee and delivered over to the enemy.

CLEVELAND'S PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.—The Democratic party is irrevocably committed to free trade, and no denial, no evasion, no protest, no shuffling can save it from the dangers of that position. It must make the doctrine good with the people, or go down to defeat with the closing of the polls. Success in that respect will depend upon the kind of fight it makes; and to the extent that the tone and substance of the principal candidate's letter of acceptance may give character to the campaign, it lies with Grover Cleveland to decide the election. Victory for him can be won only by candor and courage; a timid fight will insure deserved disaster.

That the free trade position has its dangers cannot be denied. It invites the powerful co operation of protected monopolies and trusts to condemn a policy that by making competition free threatens to extinguish their special privileges. It intensifies the party loyalty of those Republicans, and weakens that of those Democrats, who, either from selfish greed or honestly erroneous but firmly fixed opinions on production and trade, are protectionists first and party men afterwards. It excites the fears of the morbidly cau ious, and palsies the hands of old political strategists. It draws a line between right and wrong, and arrays the Democratic party against the influences that win elections when public thought is dormant.

Dangers like these are not to be lightly regarded. for after all, in party politics as in military campaigns victory is the chief immediate consideration. But the free trade position has at this time elements of strength which more than offset the dangers it invites; elements that can be dissipated by timidity and deceit, but which if made prominent will win the election. Public thought is now not dormant. Let an open, honest and logical appeal be made to the conscience of the people, and against all the power of trusts, all the tricks of protected monopolies, all the campaign funds that can be fried from the fat of tariff schedules, notwithstanding the doleful prophesies of the over-cautious, and without the aid of petty strategy, the people will raise their voices and give their votes for the right, as when aroused they always do.

A policy that excites the active hostility of trusts and monopolies will attract the support of the masses. Farmers, merchants, unprotected manufacturers and, greater than all, those who are dependent for a living upon stipulated wages—farm hands, mechanics, common laborers and clerks, though they are not so alert, are quite as logical as the beneficiaries of protected interests, and when awakened quite as ready to favor the party that favors them. Their ears are now open to hear, their eyes to see; and if they do not accept the free trade principle to which the Democratic party is committed, it will be because Democratic leaders, by minimizing the issue, hamper effective discussion and create an impression that the party is insincere.

An aggressive campaign will arouse the enthusiasm and promote the activity of free trade Democrats; it will enlighten Democrats who are on the fence as between protection and free trade, and increase their influence among their neighbors; it will secure the support of Republican free traders; and it will convert Republican protectionists whose personal interests in protection profit have not blunted their sense of justice and closed their minds against reason.

As opposed to such elements of strength, how trivial are the dangers of a free trade campaign!

The Democratic party cannot win this election by strategy; the Republicans command better talent of that order. It cannot win upon its past record; upon its record it is hopelessly in the minority. It cannot win by trying to fool the people as to the general meaning of its free trade platform; the general meaning of that, under the circumstances of its adoption, is so plain that the wayfaring man though a Democratic protectionist can read it. It cannot win by deceitful and cowardly efforts to explain that the platform's denunciation of "Republican protection" alludes to the McKinley law alone; that it alludes to all tariff protection, is proved beyond the possibility of plausible dispute by the accompaning demand for a tariff for revenue only. But it can win by boldly going to the people with the free trade platform which its convention has framed for it. This, essentially, was the policy that in 1890 gave to the Democrats 14 out of 20 Congressmen from Illinois, 9 out of 11 from Michigan, 8 out of 9 from Wisconsin, 3 out of 5 from Minnesota, and 6 out of 11 from Iowa, all until then strong Republican States. It is the only policy that can win in any of those States in 1892. It is the policy with which to win in the manufacturing and mining centres, where until lately protection was a religion with wage working voters, who now hold aloof from the Democratic party only because they doubt its sincerity. It is the policy that will bring out a full vote in the cities of New York. It is the policy that will carry the country districts of that State, where the free trade agitation has already cut a wide swath through the rank and file of the Republican party. It is the policy that will bring to Mr. Cleveland's side, with all the enthusiasm that devotion to principle inspires, a host of recruits from the more thoughtful common people in every State, who long have

"——watched a vain and aimless fight
For leave to strike one blow aright."

Let them try never so cunningly, Democratic leaders cannot escape the free trade issue. The Republicans will thrust it to the front in all its nakedness, and prove their case by the plain words of the Democratic platform. Such dangers as it may involve cannot be avoided. In this situation victory is to be won not by vainly trying to make the people believe that "free trade" is a slanderous epithet, but, adopting the epithet and thereby depriving it of its sting, by so boldly advocating the principle it describes as to drive the Republicans to the wall. That can easily be done. High protection may hold its own against low protection, but protection cannot and never could stand up against free trade before any audience willing, as is the great voting population of this country at this time, to listen to both sides. Protection, high or low, misuses the taxing power of the whole people to serve private interests, and no argument can be made for either kind that is not essentially an argument for special privileges; but when the argument is narrowed to "special privilege" or "no special privilege," the party that represents special privilege is doomed. The people of this country do not believe in special privileges, and when the issue is squarely presented to them they will say so.

The direction of the campaign having been determined by the convention, it remains for Mr. Cleveland in his letter of acceptance to set the pace. He will be pestered by tacticians and pulled and hauled by advisers who have protection proclivities and interests. Nothing that beneficiaries of the powerful special privileges which have reduced the Republican party to private ownership can do to avoid a decisive fight will be left undone. If he has fears, his fears will be played upon. If he is cautious, the importance of caution will be emphasized. If he seeks advice, the shrewdest Democratic agents of protected monopoly will be nearest at hand and most solicitous for "the good of the party." But he has in the past, both in decision and action, proved his independence of all such influences, and we believe that he will do it again at this critical time in his own career and his party's history.

Mr. Cleveland is not called upon to make any more radical or progressive declaration than he made in his message of 1887, or than his party adopted for the Tilden campaign. This is not the time for him to advocate free trade in the broadest sense, even if he believes in it, but this is the time for him to advocate plainly, boldly, with no false ring nor any evasive verbiage, the free trade doctrine of his platform, that Republican protection is robbery and custom house tariffs should be for revenue only. Any one who advises against that is a dangerous friend. If he so advises because he believes in protection in any degree, he is in his heart a Republican, if for the sake of policy, he is in head a fool.

THOSE GENEROUS FOREIGNERS.—In the Republican Magazine for June we find an article on free trade by D. G. Harriman, which would fairly earn the prize in a silly-season contest. From such a wealth of contradictory statements as Mr. Harriman's article offers to the gullible readers of protection literature it is hard to make a selection, but our attention has been specially called to his notions regarding the effect of free trade upon importations and home production.

Free trade, he says, would be followed by "a large importation of productions made in foreign countries," and a consequent "falling off in the demand for goods made at home." This has a plausible sound, which is easily explained. The reader is first made to understand that the falling off would be in the kind of goods which were more largely imported; but no sooner has he assented to this apparently self-evident proposition than his thought is shifted to the conclusion that there would be a falling off in the demand for all kinds of home-made goods. He has not assented to that, but he is deftly hoaxed into believing that he has, very much after the manner of the trick of school-boys who demonstrate the feasibility of putting ten men into nine beds with only one man in each bed.

No one is quite so ignorant of commercial affairs as to believe that there can be "a large importation of productions made in foreign countries" without an increase instead of "a falling off in the demand for goods made at home." The foreigner will not give us his goods for nothing. He will demand goods in return; and we must give him goods made at home, or goods procured from some other foreigner in exchange for goods made at home. In either case there must be an increase, not a falling off, in the demand for our goods.

Efforts have been made to explain away this obvious result with the assertion that we would be required to pay for our imports with gold and silver. If that were so, the demand for gold and silver, produced from our home mines, would increase—that would not fall off; and when our mines gave out we should be compelled to stop importing, or the foreigner would be compelled to accept other goods of ours than gold and silver. But it is not so, as every merchant, every banker, every economic writer, and even D. G. Harriman and Roswell G. Horr, well know.

Still another method of explaining away this result of free trade is to argue that foreigners will send manufactures to us and demand agricultural products in return, thus "reducing" us to the abject and barbaric condition of an agricultural people. In this connection, however, it is not necessary to more than refer to that, for Mr. Harriman, with singular obtuseness, insists that an increase in the "importation of productions made in foreign countries" would be followed by "an increase in the supply of farm products, with no corresponding increase in the demand." This unique economist appears really to believe, at any rate, he tries to make his readers believe, that greater importations would not increase the demand for any kind of home production, not even those of the farm.

Mr. Harriman and all his school are back numbers. The day has come when men who work for a living can no longer be caught in the net of the monopolist. It is becoming better and better understood that trade the world over is an exchange of labor for labor, from which each party reaps a profit; and that the more of trade there is and the freer it is allowed to be, the better for every one concerned, except people who live by levying tribute upon traders and producers.

CAUSE OF THE RUSSIAN FAMINE.—The common saying, "If it had been a snake it would have bitten him," could hardly be better applied than to the failure of W. E. Edgar, in his article on "Russia's Land System: The Cause of the Famine," published in the July Forum, to discover the real cause of suffering among the Russian peasantry. Doubtless shiftlessness has had something to do with the famine; ignorance of improved methods of production has had something to do with it; the money lenders, the petty officials, and the small traders, all have had something to do with it. But these are effects of an anterior cause, and so far as they themselves are causes at all, they are secondary and quite superficial. It is not remarkable, perhaps, that a man who, in these days of telegraphs, cables, railroads, steamer lines, commerce, and banking, thought it necessary to load a special ship with a special consignment of food for transportation from America to Russia, in order to relieve the Russian peasantry, should look no deeper than the outward appearance of things for an explanation of the famine, and wholly ignore its great fundamental cause, though in Russia the cause lies nearer to the surface than in any other country, Ireland perhaps excepted. Mr. Edgar really touches upon and describes this cause, but with no more consciousness of its significance than a plow-horse has of the relation of the implement he draws through the soil in spring to the corn he eats in winter.

Mr. Edgar notices the existence in Russia of "lords of the land," possessing individually thousands upon thousands of acres; but from that pregnant fact he draws no other inference regarding the famine than that it is largely due to the habit of these "lords of the land," since the abolition of serfdom, of living in cities and towns far away from their estates, and forgetful of the interests of their childlike peasantry. And now that "the lord of the land has returned to his former serfs and interested himself in their welfare," Mr. Edgar supposes that, admonished by the long black Winter of starvation now about to end, each class will in future appreciate

"each other's value." But he fears that if "the peasant's welfare should be again neglected by his traditional protector, his prospects for the future are dark indeed."

How an intelligent man could thus come face to face with the relations of the landowning to the peasant classes of Russia without asking himself in what way the lord of the land is valuable to the peasantry, and by what token he is able to be their protector, passes all comprehension. Granted that the peasant is shiftless; so is the lord of the land. Granted that the peasant is ignorant of improved methods of production; so is the lord of the land. Granted that the peasant is extravagant and wasteful; the lord of the land is more so. But the peasant, though he works, famishes for want of what work produces; while he lord of the land, without working, lives in luxury upon the fruits of work. If the peasant were not plundered by the lord of the land, what power would the lord of the land have to relieve him? Sixteen-string Jack stole guineas before he distributed shillings.

How can idleness relieve industry unless it first robs industry? That is a question which Mr. Edgar has never put to himself, or he would have seen in this "lord of the land," whose pity for famishing serfs has so deeply touched him, the real underlying cause of the Russian famine.

McKINLEY AS A DEMAGOGUE.—In his historic speech at Minneapolis, upon his election as chairman of the Republican convention, Governor McKinley brought down thunders of applause when he told the economic wisdom of his party, then in convention assembled, that the prosperity and greatness of this country is due to the tariff, the whole tariff, and nothing but the tariff. His audience was equally enthusiastic when he informed them that the only attempts at changing his bill which the Democrats in Congress had made were in the interest of the South. "They give free cotton ties to cotton States," he exclaimed, "and tariff hoop iron to Northern States." This was a sad slip on the part of the distinguished Governor of Ohio. If protective tariffs bring prosperity and free trade is a blight, the Democrats in Congress were really trying to ruin the cotton States by placing cotton ties upon the free list, while favoring the Northern States by retaining the tariff on hoop iron. If this is not a fair criticism of McKinley's speech, it is at any rate infinitely fairer than his attempt to arouse unreasonable prejudice against the Democrats in Congress by stirring the embers of old sectional fires.

A SINGLE TAX TOWN.—Single taxers everywhere will rejoice when they read in the "Progress of the Movement" this week the interesting story from the pen of Henry George, Jr., of the practical conversion of the town of Hyattsville, Md., to the single tax. This is the work of Jackson H. Ralston, who was assisted by Congressmen Tom L. Johnson, of Ohio, and John DeWitt Warner, of New York. Through the efforts of Mr. Ralston, the taxation of personal property in Hyattsville was abolished some time ago, and now, the taxation of improvements has been abolished also. Hyattsville now labors under no other burden of taxes on consumption and production than such as are imposed by the Federal Government in its tariff and internal revenue laws. With these burdens it cannot enjoy the full fruits of the single tax which it has adopted for local purposes, but it is placed at a great advantage over other communities, and in the increase of improvements it will soon prove the value of the single tax, even as a mere fiscal measure and in spite of the interference of tariff laws, as a promoter of the general prosperity.

EDITORIAL NOTES.—Without exception, the best European correspondent of the American papers is Harold Frederic, of the New York Times. Readers of the Sunday edition of that paper, in which Mr. Frederic's letters appear, have an opportunity to follow the drift of current history abroad, and to qualify themselves for judging the significance of public events. The letters are interesting as well as instructive. In style they are pleasing, and they show the writer to be an observant, shrewd and thoughtful historian. Occasionally, however, Mr. Frederic makes the mistake of supposing that his American readers are familiar with the facts upon which he comments. He forgets that, but for letters such as his, it is impossible to keep informed from the New York papers of any news in Europe except such as is spiced with scandal or adapted to the demands of snobbery. An example appears in his last Sunday's letter. He compares protected Sweden dull, slow and aristocratic, with free trade Norway alert, pushing, democratic, and possessed of the largest commercial fleet in Europe after the British, and referring to the conduct of Sweden in hampering the commerce of Norway by stupid tariff laws, speculates upon the effect of the notice served by the latter upon the former, that she will stand this interference no longer; but he does not explain the situation so that it can be understood by the average American reader. Yet here is a subject in which Americans are becoming more and more deeply interested, and about which the European news as printed here from day to day, gives no adequate information. It is probable that such defects in Mr. Frederic's letters are due to the "blue pencil fiend" at the home office, for in the same letter, after an account of the political situation in London, Mr. Frederic apologizes for talking so much about the "purely local politics and projects of London." There is nothing that could interest serious minded Americans more than the local politics and projects of London at the present time, for those politics and projects are but local applications of principles of world wide concern, and the competent writer who dwells upon them, so far from owing his readers an apology, earns and receives their gratitude.

There is an inside story of the committee on resolutions at Chicago which ought to be told. It will be remembered that Chairman Jones, the editor of that outspoken free trade paper, the St. Louis Republic, surprised the country by advocating the tariff plank which was reported by the committee and peremtorily sat upon and flattened out by the convention. Mr. Jones now states in his paper that he proposed to the committee a plank on the tariff substantially like that adopted by the convention, and while refraining from saying what else occurred in the committee, he explains his conduct in urging the conflicting plank in the convention by saying that he did so as chairman of the committee "by way of courtesy to the committee and in accordance with custom." In the same connection it appears that Mr. Neal stood alone as a member of the committee in proposing the substitute which the convention adopted. What is the explanation of all this? How were free traders like Vilas, Bayard, and the editor of the Republic induced to support a protection plank. The Sun says that it was because Mr. Cleveland made the request. We do not believe it. At the same time we are constrained to believe that some powerful and possibly deceptive influences were at work.

When Senator Hale raised the free trade issue in the Senate last week, Senator Vest promptly met him and tore his speech to shreds. There was nothing apologetic in what Vest said. He accepted the free trade issue and met his antagonist squarely upon the question, with the result that will always follow when Democrats get over their timidity and fight the issue as Senator Vest fought it. As Hale went down before the avalanche of facts, figures and principles which Vest let loose upon him, so will every protection spell binder, so will the party of protection, so will the protection fetish itself, when the Democratic party toes the scratch as Vest did.

The Senate has passed a free silver coinage bill. Several Democrats, including Hill, voted for it, as did almost as many Republicans; and Bland has hurried to Washington to try to put it through the House. If enacted it could not effect its pretended purpose, for under its provisions years must elapse before the mints could turn any new silver into coin; they would be pressed to their utmost capacity for a long time to come in coining the silver already on hand, the coinage of which is required by the bill. This avoids any early dangers from free coinage: but fears are excited just the same, and it is not a far-fetched inference that the bill was passed, so far as its Republican and Democratic supporters in the Senate are concerned, for no other purpose than to confuse the issues of the campaign and embarrass Cleveland, a very probable result if the Democratic House approves it and the Republican president meets it with a strong veto message.

The David B. Hill Club, of New York city, asks he Mugwumps to desist from any further "abuse" of the late Governor Hill, and to labor fraternally for victory in November. That is a generous appeal and should be generously responded to. It would not be amiss, however, to remember what happened to the Democratic ticket in New York State four years ago, when such a course was pursued. The Tribune afterward confessed that the Republicans succeeded in trading a Governorship for the Presidency.

At the Tammany celebration of the Fourth of July, the efforts of the Tammany local orators, taking their cue from Senator Hill and the Sun, to lift the Force bill diversion above the tariff issue, were rather painful, in view of the stubbornness of all the prominent out-of-town orators in confining their oratory to tariff questions, and the obtuseness of the audience, which applauded free trade points to the echo. They were good points, though; no wonder they were applauded. There was a whole Fourth of July oration in one exclamation of the brilliant young Congressman, Bryan, of Nebraska, who said: "When you find that so little of the result of the laborer remains in his own hands, and so much of it passes into the hands of others, it is time for you to inquire whether this is the result of natural force or is because of some fault in government." The Force bill is a dangerous measure, but it does not touch even the Tammany pulse as the tariff question does when presented in that way.

The British Congress of Chambers of Commerce, comprising dele-

gates from different parts of the Empire, including the colonies, which sat in London last week, while advocating commercial union on the basis of free trade within the British Empire, decisively rejected a proposition favoring differential duties against foreign imports. Thus again are the British protectionists defeated in their perennial efforts to revive protection. The old scourge dies hard, but it is dying fast.

TOM JOHNSON'S JOY.

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

Congressman Tom L. Johnson may well sing hymns of joy over the adoption of the single tax at Hyattsville, Md., a full report of which is given in this issue in the department of single tax news. Aside from the special benefit of the measure to that town and its general value as an object lesson to the whole country, it adds to Johnson's prestige in Congress and strengthens him for his fight on the District of Columbia Assessment Bill when that shall come up. We are told that he is fairly wreathed in smiles.

The Cleveland Examiner, a Republican paper that is supposed to be fighting him, has this to say of him in a recent issue:

Few men can resist the infection of the Hon. Tom Johnson's smile. It is so dimply, so irradiating, so sunny, so free-for-all, so seccharine.

There is a dim suspicion that the Hon. Tom practices this smile before a glass. Perhaps he practices it between glasses. Anyway it is a nice smile. It is the sort of a smile that you would feel like inviting a man out to enjoy. If the man was a stranger it would gratify you to have him go home and remember it. You would feel pleased should he allude to it as only second in point of attraction to the Garfield Memorial and the lake front.

But it would be very irritating to have the man blurt out: "Oh, I've seen that. It's old."

Yes, it is a little old. That can't be denied. It's a little frayed at the edges, too. And there is a dent in one side. And at times it does seem a little cloying.

There may be enough of it left, however, to worry through the campaign with, and then it can have a good, long, undisturbed rest.

There are things besides the Chicago convention and the victory at Hyattsville to make Tom Johnson smile. Over four hundred thousand copies of "St. George" have now been put into circulation, and the paper manufacturer is now at work on the last of the paper for the million edition. Fifty thousand copies of the book have been sent into Minnesota, and one hundred thousand are now going to Republicans in Wisconsin. Large quantities are also going into other States, principally in the north west. The Canadian orders are steadily increasing and the expectation of some of our friends there is that the orders for the Province of Ontario alone will aggregate one hundred thousand copies. One Canadian single taxer who sent an order said he had seen notice of the book in the London (Eng.) Advertiser. Silas M. Burroughs, of London, does not intend that England shall be behind, and has sent over $300, in addition to the $300 previously sent, for fifty thousand copies. He will have these bound with a special cover, and will distribute them among the kings, cabinet officers, ministers and other high functionaries of Europe.

A day or two ago General John H. Ketcham, Republican member of Congress from the Sixteenth New York district, walked up to Mr. Johnson on the floor of the House, and said:

"Johnson, I've got a bill against you. It costs me about a dollar a day to send out copies of that George book you got into the Record."

"How's that, General?" asked the member from Ohio.

"Well, you see," said the New York member, "there's some industrious fellow at work in my district. He evidently had a little money on hand that he wanted to spend in the matter, and so he bought some postal cards and had them printed—on one side with my address and on the other side with a request for a copy of your book, a blank space being left at the bottom for the name and address of the sender. This fellow has been distributing these printed postal cards among his friends, and they have been coming into me in shoals. Of course, I'm answering the demand, and that's why I have a bill against you."

Another Republican member, John T. Cutting, of California, sent over to Mr. Johnson's desk for some copies of the book, accompanying the request with the following note, that he had just received:

SAN FRANCISCO.

HON. JOHN T. CUTTING,

DEAR SIR: Will you be kind enough to send me a copy of St. George's symphony in E major—interlude by Tom Johnson and others? Please step over to Johnson's desk and get it. If I had half a dozen copies I think I could organize a glee club to rehearse it and thus enliven the forthcoming campaign. Yours respectfully, JAS. J. REYNOLDS.

Word comes from Pittsburg, Pa., that Roman Staley, a bookseller and stationer, there, at 315 Wood street, has posted before his store a sign bearing the inscription:

"Given away to-day. The book,
"Protection or Free Trade?" by Henry George.
Come and get one.

A similar advertisement has been posted by Louis Klein, of St. Louis, outside his house. He says in a letter:

I propose to post a glowing notice on the front of my twelve-dollars-and-a-half-rent-per-month-on-a-ten-dollars-a-week-salary palace to the effect that a copy of the Congressional Record edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" can be had by asking for it within.

In connection with this it should be said that Mr. Johnson has some bills, ten by twelve inches, making the following announcement:

One Millionth
Congressional Edition
"Protection or Free Trade?"
by Henry George,
(Unabridged)
with Debate in the House.
Price 2 cents.
For sale here.

Copies of this bill may be had by writing to Mr. Johnson.

After our friends everywhere have caused to be sent to Mr. Johnson all the contributions they can gather for the St. George distribution fund, they should make every effort to get the Democratic State Committees to subscribe for large editions. Resolutions should be passed by organizations calling on the State Committee for books, and individuals who can do no more should write and get their friends to write to the chairman of the committee.

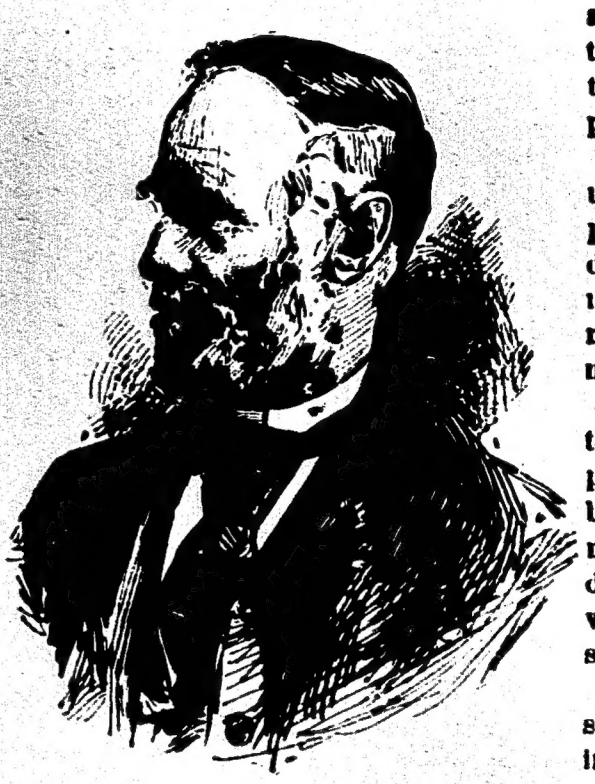
It should also be announced that Mr. Johnson is anxious to receive the names and addresses of all voters in the Hon. Thomas B. Reed's district (First District of Maine, embracing York and Cumberland counties), to whom copies of "St. George" might, with reasonable assurance of good result, be sent. P. H. Smith, of Raton, New Mexico, proposed to subscribe for five hundred copies if Mr. Johnson would contribute the thousand copies he offered Mr. Reed, and Mr. Johnson accepted the proposal. Mr. Smith has just sent word that he has $5 more, which was handed to him. Mr. Johnson would be glad to hear from any one who can assist in the education of the ex-Speaker's constituents in the good doctrine.

NATIONAL CURRENCY.

J. G. MALCOLM.

For the purpose of eliciting criticism and objections, I submit the following as a system of national money.

1.—Congress should establish a banking system similar to our present postal system, having its headquarters in Washington, with branches in the various cities and villages of the country. Bankers should be paid salaries,



as postmasters are now, and they should loan money direct to the people, and accept deposits as banks do now.

2.—Congress should fix upon a certain sum of money per capita as the one most desirable to have permanently in circulation, and this should not differ widely from that now in circulation.

3.—Congress should cause to be issued a new, national paper money, and it should be made the only legal tender money in payment of all debts. All other money, whether of coin or paper, should be demonetized.

4.—The national banks should accept all money now in circulation at par for the new money, and should send it monthly to Washington, where the paper money now in circulation should be destroyed, and the metallic money cast into bullion and sold as commodities.

5.—Money should be loaned on a monthly plan, with the understanding that no person should ever be required to pay the principal so long as he pays the national interest and keeps the security good.

6.—The rate of interest should be made to control the volume of money per capita in circulation. This could be done by raising the rate of interest to all borrowers every month when too much money was going out, and lowering the same every month when too little was going out.

7.—In order to encourage people to make deposits in the banks, and thus make the rate of interest low, the banks should allow interest on monthly deposits, giving a little lower rates to depositors than charging on loans, so as to cover the expenses of banking.

8.—Loans should be made only upon securities that are the products of human labor. No person should be allowed to pledge any of the natural things either of heaven or earth, or under the earth, for the payment of borrowed money. Let money be loaned only on products of labor, and then the dollar would represent labor, and that is what it should represent. If we could first secure the single tax on land values, nothing but products of labor could be given as security for borrowed money, for land values would then be taken for public use. The effect of this would be to greatly lessen the rate of interest, as more than one-half of all money borrowed is

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Dr. J. G. Malcolm was born in the city of Aberdeen, Scotland, April 18, 1830. In the spring of 1832 his parents moved with him to that part of Canada now known as Ontario, Oxford County, where he lived for more than thirty years. He graduated in medicine in the New York Homœopathic College in 1868, after which he moved to Michigan where he practiced medicine until 1884, when he moved to his present home in Hutchinson, Kan.

It was during the great land boom in Canada, caused by the high price of wheat in consequence of the Russian war, and the construction of several important lines of railway, that his attention was first directed to the land question. He noticed how fast some men got rich, by no efforts of their own, but by the increase of land values. He also noticed how thousands of hard working, honest people became totally ruined in their efforts to buy land they had no use for, at boom prices. He noticed that the private ownership of land was a method of depriving a large majority of the people of all right or title to the land. In 1858 the crash came; land values came tumbling down, and poor speculators were driven to the wall, like sheep to the slaughter. This led Mr. Malcolm to question the justice of the private ownership of land, and in the winter of 1859 he proposed the question for discussion in a debating club to which he belonged, he taking the negative side.

In 1881 he read "Progress and Poverty," and at once recognized it as the most important work ever published, and declared that its principles if adopted would be the greatest advance ever taken by man since he discovered the use of fire. The doctor was one of the first to advocate the single tax in the State of Michigan, contributing numerous articles to newspapers in different parts of the State and in various parts of the country. He was also one of the first to lecture publicly on the subject in Detroit and several other cities.

Soon after reading "Progress and Poverty," he conceived the idea that there should be some solution to the money question as satisfactory as George's solution of the land question, and after much thought he published in several newspapers an outline of a national system of money which he still believes to be as near perfect as in the nature of things possible. The accompanying contribution is a brief outline.

upon mortgages upon land. Remove the landlord as a competitor for money, and interest will drop more than one-half.

9.—Banks should be authorized to accept collateral securities at a small advance on the rate of interest, and thus abolish the pawnbroker's business.

10.—On this system the rate of interest would be the same to all borrowers, for the same time, all over the United States.

11.—Persons wishing to trade with foreign countries would have no difficulty in exchanging our money for theirs, as they do now; for our money would then buy things just as it does now.

12.—The exchanging of the new paper money for the present gold and silver money would be an immediate gain to the people of the United States equal to the commodity value of the gold and silver now in circulation, and would pay off our national debt.

13.—Under the above system the value of the dollar would not change so much as under our present system, for the number of dollars per capita could be kept practically the same, and, since the wealth of the country and the consumption of commodities is very closely related to the number of people, the relation of the dollar to the wealth of the country would be maintained as near as practicable, and this without taxing the people to buy either gold or silver of the owners of mines in Colorado or elsewhere. This would give us a stable and substantial system of money without making millionaires of any one class of people at the expense of another.

THE RIGHT MUST WIN.

Toledo Sunday Journal.

That it should be permitted to any to appropriate the use and enjoyment of one of the essentials of life, land, as much an essential as air, light or water—appears to us as proper, because we have not known a dissimilar condition. But change the picture, and we would presently revolt against a not less unwise and unjust situation. Suppose the Oklahoma or Sisseton onrush were made by a crowd denied air, what then? Would not we be deeply touched with horror, and instantly demand that the persons who assumed to deny the general right to air, be driven out of their vantage, even were it necessary to call for the assistance of the sword? We shudder at the Black Hole of Calcutta, where some scores of English soldiers, from lack of air, perished in a single night, and smile at the theorists who allege similar crime against the private ownership of land. We are prone to follow where others have led. What has been, serves to excuse what is. The habit of slavery was for many centuries fixed in the human mind, and brave soldiers rested content when the fortunes of war threw them into servitude. The doctrine that each individual held, absolute and inalienable, the distinct right to direct his own body, always within the law and subject to equal rights to others, was a plant of slow growth. Gradu lly the light of freedom penetrated the darkness of bondage, and slavery at last was doomed. Similarly, the time will surely come when men will hold in equal abhorrence the idea that a sacred few hold the right to the soil, and that the many are simply their tenants. What is right must succeed. The rate of progress is slow, the unfolding of the perfect flower does not occur in a night, save in a few rare cases, and then the process is preceded by years of patient development. So with the advancement of right, and all that comes with right.

A GOOD WORD ABOUT JOHNSON.

New Earth for June.

For several months THE STANDARD'S Washington news; furnished by Mr. Henry George, Jr., has been the most delightful single tax reading to be had. The dignity, persistence and good humor with which the single tax idea has been upheld in the House and in the committee rooms, are in themselves a guarantee of continued progress as remarkable as that of the past few months. Single taxers can hardly greet each other in these days without saying a good word about Tom L. Johnson.

SO HAVE FREE TRADERS.

Pittsburg (Pa.) Times.

Henry George is delighted with the nomination of Cleveland. Mr. George being a Free Trader pure and simple, it would be singular if he wasn't delighted. But the very, very many other people in these United States who are not Free Traders are manifesting no signs of delight. And they have votes.

REFORM CLUB DINNER.

Over 100 members of the Reform Club joined in a dinner on the 28th at the rooms of the club in celebration of the nomination of Cleveland and Stevenson, and the adoption of the tariff for revenue plank in the Democratic platform. After the dinner speeches were made by the President, E. Ellery Anderson, and by ex-Secretary of the Treasury Fairchild, Henry George, Louis F. Post, Wallace Macfarland, Everitt, P. Wheeler, Anson Phelps Stokes, Edward B. Whitney and Rignal D. Woodward.

LINES TO A MINISTER.

ROBERT CUMMING.

Error, meteor-like, may catch the eye;
But Truth leads on through all eternity.
Truth, beaming here, becomes a guiding star
To things that should be from the things that are.
Mankind, denied their just inheritance,
Men mock who shun them with a higher pretense.
Though patient suffering prove eternal gain,
Wrong still is wrong, and justified in vain.
All who would work and win the Master's praise,
And holy structures permanently raise,
Must with eternal justice first be blest;
On that all high and holy things must rest.
Of Christian work, the most essential sphere
Is this which Justice bids us enter here.
Where Justice calls, there our first duty lies;
In serving Man, we most serve God all-wise.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

The Single Tax is a tax on land, regardless of its improvements and in proportion to its value. It implies the abolition of all other forms of taxation, and the collection of the public revenues from this source alone. It would be CERTAIN, because land values are most easily appraised; WISE, because, by discouraging the withdrawal of land from use and encouraging its improvement, it would expand opportunities for labor, augment wealth, and increase the rewards of industry and thrift; EQUAL, because every one would pay taxes in proportion to the value of the land, of right the common property of all, which he appropriated to his own use; and JUST, because it would fall not upon labor, enterprise, and thrift, but upon the value of a special privilege. It is more fully explained in the Single Tax Platform in another column; and in "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George, every point is discussed and every objection answered.

The underlying principle of the single tax—that the earth belongs equally to all, and that the best way to secure substantial justice is to tax the occupant an amount equal to the yearly value of the land—is sound.—Journal of the Knights of Labor, September 24, 1891.

We have no hesitation in declaring our belief that the ideal taxation lies in the Single Land Tax, laid exclusively on the rental value of land, independent of improvements.—New York Times, January 10, 1891.

The best and surest subject of taxation is the thing that perforce stays in one place; that is land.—New York Sun, August 26, 1891.

Every one of these taxes [on commodities and buildings] the ostensible taxpayer—the man on the assessor's books—shifts to other shoulders. The only tax he cannot shift is the tax on his land values.—Detroit News, November 1, 1891.

The Bee does not say that it will never be a full-fledged single tax advocate. It believes in it in theory now; it pauses only on the threshold of doubt as to the expediency under existing circumstances.—Sacramento (Cal.) Bee.

The products of individual industry should remain at all times untaxed. Take the annual rental value of land without regard for improvements, no matter what it amounts to. The community could put this fund to better uses than the individual landlords.—St. Louis Chronicle.

PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT.

One great event follows close upon the heels of another. There was the election of Tom L. Johnson to Congress; hardly had he taken his seat, and been assigned to the District of Columbia, than he instituted the single tax investigation which led up to the introduction of the single tax bill for the District; then he went to the Chicago Convention, and, in co-operation with Neal of Ohio and a large majority of the convention, committed the Democratic party to free trade, so that the progress of that party may be briefly written thus: "Tariff for revenue with incidental protection (obsolete), tariff for revenue only (current), free trade and direct taxation (immediate), single tax on land values (ultimate)." And now we are able to give the story of how Hyattsville, Md., has become

A BRIGHT SINGLE TAX TOWN.

The story is admirably told by Henry George, Jr., who writes:

Hyattsville, Md., claims the honor of being the first place in the United States to adopt the single tax as far as respects local taxation. It has no license tax, last January it abolished the personal property tax and on Thursday last the Town Board of Commissioners passed a resolution exempting improvements from taxation and laying the sole burden of taxation on the value of land.

Hyattsville is a pretty little town of a thousand inhabitants just outside the boundary line of the District of Columbia. It is practically a suburb of Washington, many of its inhabitants daily doing their business in the Capital, and is on what is known as the "Metropolitan Branch" of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. It has neither the very rich nor the very poor among its inhabitants, the great part being in moderate circumstances, and three in five of its families owning the homes they occupy.

Jackson H. Ralston, whose name has appeared many times in THE STANDARD, and who is a prominent member of the Washington bar, has long been a resident of Hyattsville; and has also for a number of years been a thorough single taxer, and his great object has been to make Hyattsville the first municipality in the United States to adopt the single tax. It often happens that there is more politics in a small town than in a considerable city, and this was the case with Hyattsville. At the outset

Jackson Harvey Ralston was born in Sacramento, California, February 8, 1857. His father, Judge James H. Ralston, was a famous lawyer in Illinois, who preceded Stephen A. Douglas on the Circuit bench in that State, and afterwards became one of the leading men in California. He was defeated by Judge Field for the Supreme bench of California. Jackson Ralston lived the early years of his life in California and received his education at the high school in San Francisco. He learned the printers' trade at Ithaca, N. Y., and afterwards studied law while working in the Government printing office at Washington. In 1876, at nineteen, he was a delegate to the International Typographical Convention held at Philadelphia, and in 1877 was elected by the succeeding convention to represent the National Union in the International Convention at Paris in 1878. He began the practice of law at Quincy, Ill., in the fall of 1878. June 1 1887, he married Sarah B. Rankin, of Keokuk, Ia., daughter of Judge Samuel Miller's former law partner. Mr. Ralston has had two most important cases. One was the habeas corpus case of Hallan against Wilson, in which the Supreme Court of the United States decided that no man could be tried by the police court of the District of Columbia without a jury, discharged his client, and declared unconstitutional a statute that had been followed for seventeen years. The other case was that of Sharon against Tucker, in which the Supreme Court maintained a bill he had filed to quiet title based upon adverse possession as against the record owners. That decision rendered marketable millions of dollars' worth of land that had formerly been under a cloud.

Mr. Ralston found himself not only alone in his idea respecting the question of taxation, but regarded with suspicion whenever he ventured to raise the subject. But he nevertheless persisted, seizing every favorable opportunity to point a moral. He made no effort to get into a place of political prominence, however, but put forward others through whom he could work, and whenever he found it necessary to enter public discussion he always assumed the most careful and conservative of aspects. To those who knew, his hand might be seen in the local election, in the work of the local assessors, in the growth of the sentiment against a tax on personality, culminating in the repeal of that law, and finally in the passage through the Legislature of an act empowering the Town Commissioners "with a political view for the government and benefit of the community" to exempt improvements from taxation.

Having reached this point, Mr. Ralston concluded to go into open politics and he stood for election as one of the five town commissioners, quietly making sure that at least two others should be nominated who shared his ideas on the taxation question. These two were George S. Britt and Charles H. Long. The other two candidates were Thos. H. Latimer and J. Andrew Aman. By this time Mr. Ralston had won for himself a reputation for marked ability and careful and conservative ways, and he and the other four nominees were elected without opposition.

At its first meeting the Board of Commissioners chose a president, and that official was Jackson Ralston. Soon afterward the inevitable taxation question came up and Ralston got a committee of two appointed to enquire and report, and on that committee had Mr. Britt and himself appointed. While this committee was at work by a truly remarkable coincidence the town treasurer, Wm. H. Richardson, who is chief of the Board of Assessors, began to talk pretty emphatically about the outrage of taxing improvements, the fruits of industry, and placing only a light tax on land values, accruing from the growth of the community. By a similarly strange coincidence, first, Hon. Tom L. Johnson, member of Congress, from Ohio, and afterwards, Hon. John Dewitt Warner, member of Congress, from New York, visited Mr. Ralston at Hyattsville, and met a number of the most important people of the town, and made addresses and answered questions on the taxation question. And a third strange coincidence occurred when Mr. Ralston sent through the mails a copy of the report of the Johnson District of Columbia tax assessment investigating committee to every voter in the town.

At length came the final act of the drama. Mr. Ralston wrote the report of the inquiring committee, he and Mr. Britt signed it, and on Thursday evening last, at the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Britt presented it. The report is too long to give here in full, but some extracts will show its character. After a few lines to the effect that the inquiry had been made at the suggestion of many citizens of the town and with the view of possible action of the board, the report briefly reviews the progress of the town in matters of taxation.

When, in the year 1886, we were granted a charter, by its terms our annual levy of not to exceed fifteen cents on the hundred dollars was required to be placed upon the personal property, land and improvements in the town, as shown by the existing assessment roll for State and county purposes. Under this charter we levied taxes upon (in round numbers) $8,400 in personal property, $105,000 in land values, and $104,000 in improvements. The inequalities and injustice of this State and county assessment were so manifest that in 1890 the then board of commissioners secured the passage of an act by the Legislature authorizing the town to make an annual assessment on the same subjects by three assessors, and to levy a similar tax upon the property remaining included therein after revision by the board. The first board elected after the passage of this act unanimously resolved to levy no taxes upon personal property, and this subject of levy, then estimated by the county at about $15,000 in value, was dropped. The following board (1891) passed a similar resolution by a like vote.

In January, 1892, the then board prepared and submitted to the Legislature (which enacted it) a bill dropping personal property from the list of the subjects of taxation, and providing that "the Board of Commissioners are hereby constituted a final board of appeal, equalization and control of said assessment, being empowered with a political view for the government and benefit of the community to make such deductions or exceptions from and additions to the assessment made by the assessors as they may deem just."

The report then continues:

The first question, therefore, is whether the Board of Commissioners has power to exempt improvements from taxation. This is answered by the language of the act giving them power to make "deduction or exceptions," "with a political view, for the government and benefit of the community."

Such language has repeatedly been construed by the Court of Appeals of Maryland as giving authority to the Legislature "to make such discrimination and to exempt any species of property from taxation according to its views of public policy." Thus the Legislature conferred authority on the Common Council of Baltimore to exempt manufacturers' plant from taxation, a power liberally and beneficially exercised by that body.

Our power in the matter being clear it becomes important to consider whether the exercise of the power would be beneficial to the town, and if exercised what the effect would be on the town revenues

A tax on improvements discourages building. This has been so thoroughly tested by experience that we may assume it to be axiomatic. The removal of taxes on doors led to the making of more entrances. The abolition of a window tax caused more openings to be made, letting in the air of heaven where darkness and disease had before lurked. The destruction of a hearthstone tax brought warmth and comfort to many who had suffered prior to that time. By parity of reason the extinction of a present obstruction to building should bring to us increased population, more and better houses, more home owners and all the benefits which follow growing population, and are rare or unknown where men are few. If a town wants manufactures, it exempts the necessary plant from taxation or grants immunity therefrom to the entire undertaking. If it would kill dens or industry it levies a tax. Our industry is home making. Shall we take such steps as will tend to foster or to kill it? * * * Can we do anything which in the end would reward us better than to say to all men that if they earnestly desire a habitation of their own they can come with us and their industry shall untaxed bring them its full reward?

But our present system is grossly unjust, in that we levy taxation upon houses and spend the money so raised in keeping up and increasing land values. We take from those whose property is mostly in houses to spend for the benefit of those who are by contrast landowners Every cent we raise we spend in lighting, grading, graveling and otherwise improving streets, in preserving order and in doing other things which benefit the land values of our town by adding to the town's attractiveness, whereas the only way a house can be rendered worth more than its cost of construction is by some improvement made to the house itself. We are now inflicting a moral wrong none the less serious by not being generally recognized.

But grant that we have the power to do as proposed; that in so doing we will benefit the town by no longer obstructing the creation of homes; that we will remove existing moral injustice, yet it will be argued that the town must have revenues sufficient for its ordinary purposes, and that it is better to inflict a temporary wrong to some than deprive ourselves of the advantages to come from street improvements.

Laying aside the question whether wrongdoing can ever bring about adequate compensatory advantages, let us consider the argument referred to.

From our local tax of fifteen cents on the hundred dollars there was payable last year to the town on a valuation for land and houses of $469,024, the sum of $703.58. This year the assessed value of land (exclusive of improvements) is fixed at $369,708. Levying upon this at the increased rate now allowed us of twenty-five cents per hundred dollars, our receipts would be $924.27. The treasurer informs us that our road tax rebate to be received from the county for the coming year will equal $325. The result of all this will be that after exemption of all improvements from taxation our receipts for the year will nevertheless exceed those of last year by $243. * * * * Within a limited period the land values of Hyattsville have increased after paying all taxes levied upon them more than a quarter of a million. The increase was brought about by the growth of the community as a whole and is a result of its collective industry. During the same period every house — the result of individual industry — has steadily deteriorated in value. Shall we levy taxation upon the thing of individual creation and which diminishes constantly in valuation instead of taxing exclusively that which we have created as a community, and which now enures to the benefit of a few?

Your committee seek no reputation as prophets, nor do they hazard any when they say that should Hyattsville be the first town in the Union to abolish taxation on houses, as it was the first to abolish personal taxes, the result from every material point of view will as a matter of course be of the greatest possible advantage to it. We will also reap the reward of those who see a great truth and have the courage to follow it. * * *

We honestly recommend that the board deduct and except from taxation all improvements embraced in the report of the assessors.

Considerable discussion followed the reading of the report, Mr. Latimer deprecating the ground taken by it. At length Mr. Long, the third "sound" commissioner, offered a resolution that the board "deduct and except" from the report of the assessors all assessments upon improvements, and levy a tax of 25 cents per $100 upon the remaining land values. On this Messrs. Ralston, Britt and Long voted in the affirmative, and Messrs. Latimer and Aman in the negative.

In this way, after four years untiring work, Jackson Ralston accomplished his object of making his town of Hyattsville the first single tax municipality in the United States. In a little chat with him as to the results of the application of the single tax, Mr. Ralston said to the writer:

The removal of taxation from improvements in Hyattsville will probably bring about such an increased demand for land to build houses upon as will offset any tendency toward depreciation arising from the increased tax upon land values. I, therefore, do not anticipate any special reduction in the price of land at the present time, as would probably be the case if the application of the single tax were general. The special advantage I look for is the impetus that will be given to building as the result of the removal of the obstacle to that industry.

MISCELLANEOUS WORK.

On Sunday the single tax attendants upon the People's party convention at Omaha had a crowded and enthusiastic meeting in the Forum Street Theatre, which was presided over by President Brackett, of the Omaha Single Tax Club. The speakers were Hamlin Garland, of Massachusetts; Mary B. Lease, of Kansas; James Bellangee, of Iowa, and Mrs. Kingman, of Oregon.

The single tax men of Battle Creek, Michigan, hold regular meetings, meantime losing no opportunity to persuade his constituents to "rattle" Congressman Burrows with calls for "Protection or Free Trade?" Their next lecturer is the Rev. Preston Barr, rector of St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, who is a single tax man with a streak of nationalism in the composition.

E. C. Clark, the Hutchinson, Kan., lawyer, still spends his leisure time in giving single tax lectures in outlying towns and villages. He finds that the sub-treasury scheme is an easy thing to overthrow in the minds of his audiences, and that the single tax readily takes. It is expected that the Citizens' Alliance of Hutchinson will reorganize as a single tax club, and Mr. Clark reports this tax reform as spreading rapidly among Alliance and People's party men. Among other pronounced converts he names F. R. Crissman, an ex-banker, of Hutchinson, who, upon reading the reply to the Pope, said: "I was never so much surprised in any book or man in my life. I thought George was a sort of visionary with a wild theory, but I find him to be one of the grandest of men, and his land views absolutely and fundamentally right."

ANOTHER SINGLE TAX ASSESSOR.

A. B. Adair, a thorough-going single tax man who was elected assessor of Evanston, Cook Count, Ill., is doing great work in shifting taxes from improved to unimproved property.

THE SINGLE TAX PROPAGANDA ASSOCIATION.

The Single Tax Propaganda Association is helping the distribution of the congressional edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" At first blush this work may seem a little out of its line as it is connected with politics, but the members of the association believe that in no other way can they so effectively and easily insert the thin edge of the single tax wedge. They believe that many persons will read attentively an official document franked by a Congressman who would not take the trouble to turn the leaves of a single tax track. And they know that whoever reads "Protection or Free Trade?" attentively will be disposed to learn more of the proposition to place all taxes on land values, and the reasons for it, therefore the State secretaries are sending lists of person to workers in the different Congressional districts urging them to see that they are supplied with copies franked by their own congressman. All the secretaries and many members are also distributing

copies franked by Congressman Tom L. Johnson. Henry George, Jr., writing from Washington, says Mr. Johnson has been exceedingly gratified by the splendid work done by the members of the Propaganda Association. That association is unique. It is having a powerful effect. Indeed, it is producing results out of all proportion to the number of persons participating in its operation.

APPLYING THE TEST.

The Chicago Single Tax Club want to find out who pays the tariff tax, and to that end they petition the director of the World's Fair that on foreign exhibits of dutiable goods at the fair, the selling price in the country from which the goods are exported, the transportation charges from point of origin to Chicago, and the selling price in Chicago be stated separately, so that visitors may be enlightened in reference to the operation of our present system of tariff taxation, and find out who pays the duty. "We conceive," the petition reads, "that neither political party can consistently be opposed to this, as the framer of the existing tariff confidently asserts as the faith of his party that the foreign exporter pays the tax, and the opposing party asserts with equal confidence that the American consumer pays the tax."

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

The National Committee is carrying on the newspaper work of the Memphis committee in supplying news companies with single tax matter for their ready prints and plates.

LIABILITIES.

Due A. N. Kellogg Newspaper Co. for composition, etc.....	78 75

ASSETS.

Cash on hand.....	$31 42	
Due from Newspaper Co. for single tax moulds.....	45 00	
		76 42
Deficit.....		$2 33

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

OBJECT LESSONS.

This department contains facts, gathered from all parts of the world, that are of current interest and permanent value, and illustrate social and political problems. Information from trustworthy sources is solicited.

A "DEAD HEAD" WIDOW.

The New Orleans Delta tells of a widow who owned a narrow strip of land which the Inman Steamship Company wished to buy, but for which she asked such an outrageous price that the two were for a long time unable to come to terms. Finally a compromise was reached. She offered to deed the land if the company would in turn agree to give to her and her two daughters, as long as she lived, free passage upon the steamers of the line. As she was an elderly lady the company agreed to it. This was in 1889. Ever since then the lady and her daughters have lived aboard the company's steamers, and as they run vessels to nearly all of the principal parts of the world, she travels wherever she wishes.

If the widow was not from first to last a "dead head" traveler, what return did she make for the service she enjoyed? It is said that fifty cents in confederate currency will be paid for the first correct answer to this question.

TYPICAL CASE IN A GROWING COUNTRY.

The Minneapolis Times reports the sale last Spring of a piece of land on Nicollet avenue, Minneapolis, by Mrs. Alice A. Taylor, for $52,000. Ten years ago Mrs. Taylor bought the land for $5,400, of which she has never paid but $1,100, the remainder having rested on mortgage ever since. For some time previous to the sale she was receiving an annual rental of $1,200, or a hundred dollars a year more than she originally paid out; and now she receives in lump over $50,000, which she has wisely invested in another piece of Minneapolis land. The Times refers to the case as showing how good an investment Minneapolis land is. It does show that; but it shows also what fools Minneapolis people are to allow the common wealth of their growing city to fall into the private purses of some of its inhabitants.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

DOMESTIC.

The Prohibitionists nominate John Bidwell, of California, for President, and J. B. Cranfill, of Texas, for Vice-President.

The People's party nominated James B. Weaver, of Iowa, for President, and James G. Field, of Virginia, for Vice President.

The lockout at Carnegie's Homestead works has begun. The sheet iron manufacturers have signed the workmen's scale.

John W. Foster is confirmed as Secretary of State in place of Blaine.

Theodore W. Dwight, late professor of the Columbia College law school, died suddenly in Clinton, N. Y., almost at the exact hour that the degree of L.L.D. was conferred on him by Yale University.

Congressman Michael D. Harter, of Ohio, introduces a bill exempting the notes of State banks from federal taxation.

FOREIGN.

Elections for fifty eight members of Parliament were held in England on Monday, with the result of a net gain of eight seats for the Liberals.

President Diaz of Mexico, is re-elected.

General Peixoto's term of office as President of Brazil, was extended until 1895.

SIMPSON USUALLY HAS THE BEST OF IT.

Cleveland (Ohio) World.

Jerry Simpson's opponent for Congress out in Kansas calls Jerry "a sockless ditch digger," and Jerry retorts by calling his opponent "my neighbor, a gentleman, a scholar, and a mighty good fellow," Jerry has got the better of that discussion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

——C. S. Eastwood writes from Denver, Col., apropos of the editorial published in THE STANDARD, of June 15th, on the flocking of Canadians into New England to take possession of the abandoned farms: In addition to the excellent reasons furnished by THE STANDARD for the "exodus" (that is what the Canadians term it) of Canadians to the "States," there are other very potent ones, not touched by either THE STANDARD or the Journal. But before stating these reasons, it is quite pertinent to inquire of the Journal what has become of the Americans who once tilled these abandoned farms, with the greatest "home market" in the United States right at their door? It will be admitted that many of these New England farmers went to Ohio, Illinois, Kansas, and all over the great West, even to the Pacific coast, for advantages of soil and climate which New England did not possess, and which the Republican party did not create; and many Canadians, wiser than those from the Province of Quebec, have followed the example of the cute Yankees. That protection had nothing to do with the exodus is made evident by the fact that Canada has a protective tariff of its own, and so far as protection is concerned the change produced is similar to that experienced by a flop from the frying pan into the fire. The situation in the Province of Quebec is, however, different from that in the other Provinces of the Dominion, and to the inhabitants of that province, the change, even to the despised farms of New England, must be one of singular relief, and this will be quite apparent when the facts are learned.

When it is understood that the Roman Catholic Church owns one-fifth of the property of the province, including in this factories run by the nuns, and business property returning rents to the church, all of which is exempt from taxation, one reason for the exodus will be realized. But in addition to this the "habitan," as the French Canadian farmer is termed, is compelled to pay tithes and fabrique taxes, or taxes for building churches, parsonages, and nunneries.

As the French Canadian does not desert his church when he deserts his country, these purely religious taxes he will continue to pay; he will build his church and support his priest, but in the States it will be a voluntary offering, while in Quebec it is a compulsory one. Furthermore, the building of ecclesiastical edifices is a "home industry" in Quebec, of a live character, and when the parish is well supplied, and out of debt, it is often considered that the time is ripe for subdivision, and the creation of a new parish, with its accompanying levy of new fabrique taxation.

It will be evident, I think, from the foregoing resumé, that if the political boundary line between Quebec and New England were obliterated the exodus would continue unabated. The whole situation furnishes thought on other lines than those embraced in this letter, but as they might be considered foreign to the character of THE STANDARD, I refrain from their consideration.

—— A. J. Postwick writes from Sharon, Ct.: I am so much pleased with Congressman White's speech that I cannot refrain from giving him the credit of making the best speech I ever read. It has the real free trade ring to it, and it has so much radiant light in it that its rays should shine even into the hearts of some strong protectionists. I think Mr. White is a true man for the people not only of his district but of the nation.

—— S. M. Burroughs writes from London, England: It is very galling to Americans over here to see the pitiful contempt with which the American average intelligence is regarded by the great majority of men of all parties, simply because we remain the dupes of the plausible "protection" humbug. My reply is that I believe the American average of intelligence is quite as high, if not higher than the English, owing to our earlier adoption of the free-school system; also that the growth of intelligence on this question now that it has once begun will be even more rapid than it was here in the days of Cobden and Bright when the protectionist fraud received its death blow. It is nearly dead now; a few faint kicks from members of the body furthest from the brain are the only remaining signs of life in the old humbug,

——Louis Baer writes from Dunbar, Pa.:—I have read Henry George on free trade and have been convinced that free trade would do this country good. I have been a Republican all my life, but can't vote that way this Fall. We, as workingmen, have no protection now under Republican administration. If you see fit to send me some documents I will distribute them where they will do the most good.

THE TRIBUTE OF INDUSTRY.

Portland (Ore.) East Oregonian.

Farmers see the land of Virginia, which has factories, selling on the average of about $11 an acre, while the poorer land of Pennsylvania, with many factories, brings $49 an acre, says the Salem Statesman. And yet there are people to be found everywhere who claim that industry does not pay tribute to land monopoly. High-priced land is no evidence of prosperity; it is rather a tax on prosperity. When land values reach their highest level, industry commences to slacken, until it is forced to go away to other fields where land is not monopolized and is more accessible.

A VIEW FROM OVER THE BORDER.

London (Can.) Advertiser.

There is an enormous demand throughout the country for Henry George's book on "Protection and Free Trade," which Congressman T. L. Johnson is sending out from Washington to any address on receipt of one cent for each copy. Fully 1,000 of these books, it is stated, are mailed daily. People may not agree with all that George says, but it is apparent that they do not desire to form their opinions regarding his contentions from the distortions of the interested persons who choose to misrepresent the well-known author.

A CLEVE-LAND-SLIDE.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Record.

Henry George looks for the triumph of the Chicago ticket by a landslide—a Cleve land-slide, as it were.

PERSONAL.

George W. Kreer was born in Philadelphia on the 18th day of March, 1857. His parents were poor, and his mother died when he was six years old. He lived with relatives until his eleventh year, when he was put on a farm near Thurlow Station, which is now a part of Chester, Pa.

Mr. Kreer never entered a school-house door after he commenced the struggle of life on his own account. Until sixteen he worked on farms from which he was by harsh treatment compelled to run away, and at that age, being an unusually well-developed boy, he enlisted in the regular army as a man of twenty-one, under the assumed name of James File, which he gave to avoid the possibility of a discharge that would have followed the discovery that he was but a boy. This was at Philadelphia on the 16th of October, 1873, and he served five years in Company B, 17th U. S. Infantry, being discharged with an honorable record at Standing Rock Agency, Dakota Ty., Oct. 16, 1878.

While in the army Mr. Kreer became a great reader, a well-stocked post library being the source from which he drew his mental rations, and after his marriage, which occurred in 1880, and while he was working as a common laborer, a physician who had made his acquaintance induced him to study medicine. For three years he read persistently, meantime taking two courses of lectures of six months each at a well-known medical college of Philadelphia, and working out most of his tuition. In the interim of college work he drifted into life insurance, and was very successful from the start, so much so that he concluded to follow that business for a livelihood. He is now connected with a large company and is located at Wilmington, Del.

Five years ago Mr. Kreer became a convert to the single tax, and since then he has been an aggressive and persistent worker in the movement. He publishes a single tax newspaper (weekly) known as the Wilmington Advance.

Paul Leroy-Beaulieu has in the Paris Economist an article on "The Socialism of the Chair," in which he takes some pages to say what the late Wm. T. Croasdale condensed into the following crisp sentence: "A socialist of the chair is a college professor who believes in socialism but does not believe in putting it in practice."

Congressman O'Neill, of Missouri, told a St. Louis Republic reporter that the funniest thing at the Democratic convention was the remark of a Tammany man after the nomination, who said indignantly that Tammany was not credited with what was its due, for if it had not been for Tammany's opposition to Cleveland the other elements which were against that gentleman would have combined on some one and thus brought about a different nomination. He argued that for this reason Tammany deserved a great deal of credit for nominating Grover. "I agreed with him," said Mr. O'Neill, "and told him that he reminded me of the saying of Josh Billings—that the pleasure of scratching was full compensation for being afflicted with the itch."

Frederick Peterson, of New York, is a shrewd man with an inquiring turn of mind Recently, while traveling abroad, he purchased in Vienna and Turin for his private collection of antique stringed musical instruments a number of Japanese, Chinese, Austrian, and Italian mandolins and guitars, varying in age from fifty to two hundred years. They were forwarded to him by freight, and he was required to pay a duty of about 40 per cent. of their original cost to him. Thereupon he writes to the Evening Post for information on two points: "Is the object of this duty merely to protect already existing manufactories of antique musical instruments in this country?" he asks; "Or, our country being so new, do the makers of the tariff hope thus to stimulate the manufacture here of antiquities in general?" The Post does not answer. It cannot. Mr. Peterson should have written to McKinley, who might have explained that this is a revenue law intended to compel foreign dealers in musical instruments to pay our taxes.

Annie L. Diggs, of Kansas, one of the brightest women in the Farmers' Alliance movement, an effective speaker and graceful writer, writes for the July Arena a sprightly account of the women in the Alliance movement. At the head of the list stands, of course, the name of Mary E. Lease, of Wichita, Kan., one of the most remarkable orators, and, sex considered, the most remarkable of her generation. Mrs. Diggs says of her: "Her chiefest distinguishing gift is her powerful voice; deep and resonant, its effect is startling and controlling. Her speeches are philippics. She hurls sentences as Jove hurled thunderbolts." It will interest Eastern readers to know that Mrs. Lease is an absolute free trader.

Titus Marech, of the Minnesota delegation to Chicago, who arose in the convention and demanded that his name be recorded as voting for the Neal substitute for the committee's tariff straddle, is a pronounced single tax man.

Charles Francis Adams, in giving his reasons in the July Forum for supporting Cleveland, describes the following as first among four issues of the campaign: "The economic and commercial system, commonly known as protection, based upon the idea that it is the business of government artificially to foster, or even to call into existence, various branches of industry." The remaining three that he names are civil service, the currency question, and the pension system.

Isaac L. Rice contributes to the July Forum a lively article on "The Consumer," but the jingle of the composition is offset by the jangle of its author's political economy.

A character sketch of President Harrison, by his personal and political friend, General Thomas J. Morgan, is a feature of the July Review of Reviews.

That indefatigable single tax worker, Charles S. Prizer, of Reading, Penn., has been elected president of the Reading Stove Works, in the place of Jesse Orr, who recently died.

In the July Harper appears an article on "The Czar's Western Frontier," by Pultney Bigelow, who was lately expelled from Russia.

RAILROAD FRANCHISES.

The people of Montclair, N. J., are beginning to understand the true relations of railway franchises to the public. By an overwhelming majority, a large meeting at the Opera House opposed a proposed ordinance to run a street railway from East Orange into Montclair, because the franchise was to be practically given away to a corporation. The report of a committee, adopted by the meeting, makes declarations such as these:

The franchise should not be for a longer term than twenty years. The township should reserve the right to buy the system at the expiration of the franchise, and in case of renewal, at the expiration of each five years thereafter. In case the township elects to buy the system, the price should be determined by arbitration, and in no event should the township pay for the franchise. After establishing all the conditions of the franchise, the township should solicit bids for the franchise, the bids to be based on a percentage of the gross revenues of the system and extensions thereto, said percentage to be paid to the township treasurer quarterly. In any event, no franchise should be granted that does not provide for a percentage of the gross receipts. The franchise should fix all maximum rates of fare to be charged by the company. The township should reserve the right to grant the use of the track of a company to any other company for a part of the length of the track, the companies concerned to agree upon a reasonable payment for the privilege.

THE NEAL SUBSTITUTE.

Courier-Journal.

This declaration was a triumph of public opinion over the paltering platitudes of timid and time-serving politicians. Surely the time for any misconception of this issue has passed. If the Democratic party has any clearly defined purpose it is to overthrow the system of tariff robbery, which is maintained by, and which, in turn, maintains the Republican party.

LET THEM SELL.

Clinton (Ind.) Saturday Argus.

The big land owners and speculators are threatening to sell out if Tom Johnson's Single Tax bill is passed. Let them sell out and go to Halifax if they want to. They can't take their vacant lots with them and the men they sell them to will go to work and employ labor by building houses and improving them. Yes, gentlemen, pass the bill and let them sell. Such calamities(?) would be a blessing for every section of our country.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

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CIRCULATION OF "THE STANDARD."

Regular subscriptions received this week	30
Extension " " "	26
Trial " " "	31
Total subscriptions for week ending July 4	87
Unexpired subscriptions	5,870
Sales, etc	500
On hand for future sales	150
Total circulation, issue of July 6	6,607
Less exchange and free list	323
TOTAL PAID CIRCULATION	6,284

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The paper will be sent for four weeks on trial to any address for ten cents.

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

ON A HOMELY TOPIC.

ALICE CHITTENDEN.

"Whatever you do be sure to have a comfortable kitchen," was the advice of a dear, old lady to me many years ago, when I was furnishing the little house in which I was to begin my life as a homemaker.

Probably, I have moved and commenced anew, in less than a quarter of a century, oftener than it falls to the lot of most housekeepers to do, but I have always remembered and acted on my dear old friend's advice.

The little things which go to make a kitchen comfortable are not included under the head of 'modern conveniences." The little things that will save you time and worry, are those which you must do for yourself. Your servant, if you are so unfortunate as to require one, will not do them for you, and it will take long weeks of patient endurance for you to teach her to do them for herself.

When a new broom comes home it will only take five minutes to bore a hole in the end of the handle, put in a piece of leather shoestring, which will last as long as the broom, and to fasten up a hook—not a nail—in some convenient corner on which to hang it. If to save these few moments you stand the broom up behind the door on its handle, you will spend hours before that broom is worn out in picking it up. I have found it an economical plan to keep one broom for carpeted rooms, one for kitchen and piazza floors, and one for the dooryard when I possessed such an adjunct.

Bags, if one is systematic about them, are another great convenience and time-saver. You want two laundry bags, a large one for coarse pieces and a smaller one for the fine clothes; besides these every sleeping room should contain a pretty bag for soiled clothes, to be emptied each day when the rooms are cared for.

In the kitchen, or in some passageway adjacent, I keep a bag for dusters, one for window cloths, and a third for such things when soiled.

A good supply of holders will make you feel a new pride in your kitchen, besides being a great saving in the matter of dish towels and aprons, with which many otherwise notable housekeepers sometimes, in a moment of haste, lift a pot from the stove or a pan from the oven. An hour spent in making them some rainy afternoon or evening will give you "comfort" for months. You can be as esthetic in their manufacture as you please, but two or three thicknesses of stout, old cloth, tacked together or quilted on the machine, with a loop at one corner to hang it by, will do just as good service. One notable housekeeper always makes these whenever she happens to have a piece of suitable material, such as a pair of worn out little trousers. For lifting large pans from the oven I find a towel three-quarters of a yard long to be most serviceable, as you can handle both sides of the pan with it at once. A cheap cotton crash, which sells for three or four cents a yard, is just the thing for this purpose. Hem three of them, put a loop of tape on one corner, and hang one up near the stove, changing it for a clean one twice a week.

Cheese-cloth makes excellent dusters. They are much neater if a hem an inch wide be run in on the machine. For the parlor you may feather-stitch the hem with red marking cotton, and keep it in that room in a pretty silken bag.

You will find great "comfort" in a small ironing-board to be kept just for pressing when you are sewing or "making over." If you use the ironing-board proper, or the bosom board, or the board for baby's dresses to press a piece of dampened black silk or cashmere on, it cannot be used again for ironing white clothes until it has a clean cover. Any small board, about ten by twenty-five inches, will make a good pressing board. Cover first with a piece of old blanket, or several thicknesses of old bed-ticking, and then with old white muslin. Nail a loop of leather at one corner, and hang it where it will be as free from dust as possible. If you can get a piece of old mahogany board small enough to run into the legs and arms of little jackets and trousers, you have a treasure. It should not be covered, and on account of the moisture in the wood the seams do not require dampening.

Over the kitchen table drive up several stout nails, and hang on them several small iron frames somewhat like tea and coffee-pot holders. They cost but a few cents each, and will save a world of scrubbing if hot pots containing vegetables to be mashed, or anything that would deface the snowy surface of your table, be stood on them instead of on the table.

Whenever my kitchen has been large enough to admit of one, I have always had a rocking chair in it. When I have done my own work, I have found that I could snatch many much needed moments of rest in it, and I have never had a servant who imposed upon me for providing her with this comfort.

At least one shelf in the kitchen for books is a necessity as well as a comfort. Here you may keep such cook books as you find useful as well as those of your own compiling, and when you are mistress of all you survey you will be very likely to have there as well the novel you are reading or the latest magazine.

Somehow, we seldom find that homely air of comfort now-a-days about even a well-appointed kitchen that was once universal in much humbler kitchens.

A speaker said lately: "Fifty years ago there were only three occupations which a respectable woman could follow, now there are 417, exclusive of the professions of medicine, law, and theology."

In doing all these things, are we not perhaps leaving the greater undone?

UNEARNED INCREMENT.

BOSTON HUNTING SONG.

Springfield Graphic.

Across the moorlands of the Not
We chase the grewsome When,
And hunt the Itness of the What
Through forests of the Then.
Into the inner consciousness
We track the crafty Where;
We spear the Ego tough, and beard
The Ergo in his lair.

With lassos of the brain we catch
The Isness of the Was,
And in the copses of the Whence
We hear the Think bees buzz.
We climb the slippery Which bark tree
To watch the Thusness roll,
And pause betimes in gnostic rhymes
To woo the Over-Soul.

PARAGRAPHS.

Republican Editor: "I have just finished an important article on the wonderful increase of prosperity since the McKinley bill, and I want you to get it in to-night." Foreman: "Very sorry, sir; but I can't." "Why not?" "The printers have struck against a reduction of wages."—Puck.

The hand that rocks the cradle is wielding its influence for the suppression of dram-drinking, but it is a case of rock and rye wherein the ingredients are in opposition instead of combination.—Boston Transcript.

Jury: "Man, my friends, is a land animal. He must have access to the soil. If he is driven from the earth he must perish, for he cannot live on the water." Samjones: "No, not unless he is a surf."—Grip.

Of the World Worldly: "There go the Spicer Wilcoxes, Mamma! I'm told they're dying to know us. Hadn't we better call?" "Certainly not, dear. If they're dying to know us, they're not worth knowing. The only people worth our knowing are the people who don't want to know us!"—Punch.

What is a fitting token of married love? A wedding ring. It has no end, and it also has no beginning. It is absolutely without variety; and it is much easier to put on than take off.—Independent.

A lady has written a book on how to yawn properly in society. She should also address a few words to the man who does the talking.—Washington Star.

"Now, little boys, can you tell me," said a Columbus teacher, "what is the effect of tobacco on the system?" Little Billy, who has wrestled with his first cigar, promptly held up his hand. "Well, Billy, what is the effect?" "Makes ye wisht ye wuz dead!"—Columbus Post.

THE GOLD-BUG.

BY EDGAR A. POE.

What ho! what ho! this fellow is dancing mad
He hath been bitten by the Tarantula.
—ALL IN THE WRONG.

[Continued from last issue.]—"Well; you have heard, of course, the many stories current—the thousand vague rumors afloat—about money buried, somewhere upon the Atlantic coast, by Kidd and his associates. These rumors must have had some foundation in fact. And that the rumors have existed so long and so continuous, could have resulted, it appeared to me, only from the circumstances of the buried treasure still *remaining* entombed. Had Kidd concealed his plunder for a time, and afterwards reclaimed it, the rumors would scarcely have reached us in their present unvarying form. You will observe that the stories told are all about money-seekers, not about money-finders. Had the pirate recovered his money, there the affair would have dropped. It seemed to me that some accident—say the loss of a memorandum indicating its locality—had deprived him of the means of recovering it, and that this accident had become known to his followers, who otherwise might never have heard that treasure had been concealed at all, and who, busying themselves in vain, because unguided, attempts to regain it had given first birth, and then universal currency to the reports which are now so common. Have you ever heard of any important treasure being unearthed along the coast?"

"Never."

"But that Kidd's accumulations were immense is well known. I took it for granted, therefore, that the earth still held them, and you will scarcely be surprised when I tell you that I felt a hope, nearly amounting to certainty, that the parchment so strangely found, involved a lost record of the place of deposit."

"But how did you proceed?"

"I held the vellum again to the fire after increasing the heat, but nothing appeared. I now thought it possible that the coating of dirt might have something to do with the failure; so I carefully rinsed the parchment by pouring warm water over it, and, having done this, I placed it in a tin pan, with the skull downward, and put the pan upon a furnace of lighted charcoal. In a few minutes, the pan having become thoroughly heated, I removed the slip, and, to my inexpressible joy, found it spotted in several places with what appeared to be figures arranged in lines. Again I placed it in the pan, and suffered it to remain another minute. Upon taking it off the whole was just as you see it now."

Here Legrand, having reheated the parchment, submitted it to my inspection. The following characters were rudely traced, in a red tint, between the death's-head and the goat:

53‡‡†305))6* ;4826)4‡.)4‡); 806* ;48†8¶60))85; 1‡(;:‡*8†83(88)5*†; 46(;88*96*?,8)*‡(;485); 5*†2:*‡(;4956*2,5*—4)8¶8* ;4069285);)6†8)4‡‡; 1(‡9;48081; 8:8‡1 ;48†85;4)485†528806*81(‡9,48; (88;4(‡34;48)4‡; 161;: 188;‡?;

"But," said I, returning him the slip, "I am as much in the dark as ever. Were all the jewels of Golconda awaiting me upon my solution of this enigma, I am quite sure that I should be unable to earn them."

"And yet," said Legrand, "the solution is by no means so difficult as you might be led to imagine form the first hasty inspection of the characters. These characters, as any one might readily guess, from a cipher—that is to say, they convey a meaning; but then, from what is known of Kidd, I could not suppose him capable of constructing any of the more abstruse cryptographs. I made up my mind, at once, that this was of a simple species—such, however, as would appear, to the crude intellect of the sailor, absolutely insoluble without the key."

"And you really solved it?"

"Readily; I have solved others of an abstruseness ten thousand times greater. Circumstances and a certain bias of mind have led me to take interest in such riddles, and it may well be doubted whether human ingenuity can construct an enigma of the kind which human ingenuity may not, by proper application, resolve. In fact, having once established connected and legible characters, I scarcely gave a thought to the mere difficulty of developing their import.

"In the present case—indeed in all cases of

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secret writing—the first question regards the *language* of the cipher; for the principles of solution, so far, especially, as the more simple ciphers are concerned, depend upon and are varied by the genius of the particular idium. In general, there is no alternative but experiment (directed by probabilities) of every tongue known to him who attempts the solution, until the true one be attained. But, with the cipher now before us, all difficulty was removed by the signature. The pun upon the word 'Kid' is appreciable in no other language than the English. But for this consideration I should have begun my attempts with the Spanish and French, as the tongues in which a secret of this kind would most naturally have been written by a pirate of the Spanish main. As it was, I assumed the crytograph to be English.

You observe there are no divisions between the words. Had there been divisions, the task would have been comparatively easy. In such case I should have commenced with a collation and analysis of the shorter words, and, had a word of a single letter occurred, as is most likely (*a* or *I*, for example), I should have considered the solution as assured. But there being no division, my first step was to ascertain the predominant letters, as well as the least frequent. Counting all, I constructed a table, thus:

Of the character 8 there are 33.
; " 26.
4 " 19.
‡ " 16.
* " 13.
5 " 12.
6 " 11.
† " 8.
0 " 6.
9 2 " 5.
: 3 " 4.
? " 3.
¶ " 2.
— . " 1.

"Now, in English, the letter which most frequently occurs is *e*. Afterward, the succession runs thus: *a o i d h n r s t u y c f g l m w b k p q x z*. *E* predominates so remarkably that an individual sentence of any length is rarely seen in which it is not the prevailing character.

"Here, then, we have, in the very beginning, the groundwork for something more than a mere guess. The general use which may be made of the table is obvious—but, in this particular cipher, we shall only very partially require its aid. As our predominant character is 8, we will commence by assuming it as the *e* of the natural alphabet. To verify the supposition, let us observe if the 8 be seen often in couples—for *e* is doubled with great frequency in English—in such words, for example, as 'meet,' 'fleet,' 'speed,' 'seen,' 'been,' 'agree,' etc. In the present instance we see it doubled no less than five times, although the cryptograph is brief.

"Let us assume 8, then, as *e*. Now, of all words in the language, 'the' is most usual; let us see, therefore, whether there are not repetitions of any three characters, in the same order of collocation, the last of them being 8. If we discover repetitions of such letters, so arranged, they will most probably represent the word 'the.' Upon inspection, we find no less than seven such arrangements, the characters being ;48. We may, therefore, assume that ; represents *t*, 4 represents *h*, and 8 represents *e*—the last being now well confirmed. Thus a great step has been taken.

"But, having established a single word, we are enabled to establish a vastly important point; that is to say, several commencements and terminations of other words. Let us refer, for example, to the last instance but one, in which the combination ;48 occurs—not far from the end of the cipher. We know that the ; immediately ensuing is the commencement of a word, and, of the six characters succeeding this 'the,' we are cognizant of no less than five. Let us set these characters down, thus, by the letters we know them to represent, leaving a space for the unknown—

t eeth

"Here we are enabled at once to discard the 'th' as forming no portion of the word commencing with the first *t*; since, by experiment of the entire alphabet for a letter adapted to the vacancy we perceive that no word can be formed of which this *th* can be a part. We are thus narrowed into

t ee,

and, going through the alphabet, if necessary, as before, we arrive at the word 'tree,' as the sole possible reading. We thus gain another letter, *r*, represented by (, with the words 'the tree' in juxtaposition.

"Looking beyond these words for a short distance, we again see the combination ;48, and employ it by way of *termination* to what immediately precedes. We have thus this arrangement:

the tree ;4(‡?34 the,

or, substituting the natural letters, where known, it reads thus:

the tree thr‡?3h the.

"Now, if, in place of the unknown characters, we leave blank spaces, or substitute dots, we read thus:

the tree thr...h the,

when the word '*through*' makes itself evident at once. But this discovery gives us three new letters, *o*, *u* and *g*, represented by ‡ ? and 3.

"Looking now, narrowly, through the cipher for combinations of known characters, we find, not very far from the beginning, this arrangement,

83(88, or egree,

which plainly is the conclusion of the word 'degree,' and gives us another letter *d*, represented by †.

"Four letters beyond the word 'degree,' we perceive the combination.

;48(;88.

"Translating the known characters, and representing the unknown by dots, as before, we read thus:

th rtee,

an arrangement immediately suggestive of the word 'thirteen,' and again furnishing us with two new characters, *i* and *n*, represented by 6 and *.

"Referring, now, to the beginning of the cryptograph, we find the combination,

53‡‡†.

"Translating as before, we obtain

good,

which assures us that the first letter is *A*, and that the first two words are 'A good.'

"It is now time that we arrange our key, as far as discovered in a tabular form to avoid confusion. It will stand thus:

5 represents a
† " d
8 " e
3 " g
4 " h
6 " i
* " n
‡ " o
(" r
; " t

"We have, therefore, no less than ten of the most important letters represented, and it will be unnecessary to proceed with the details of the solution. I have said enough to convince you that ciphers of this nature are readily soluble, and to give you some insight into the rationale of their development. But be assured that the specimen before us appertains to the very simplest species of cryptograph. It now only remains to give you the full translation of the characters upon the parchment as unriddled. Here it is:

"*A good glass in the bishop's hostel in the devil's seat forty one degrees and thirteen minutes northeast and by north main branch seventh limb east side shoot from the left eye of the death's-head a bee line from the tree through the shot fifty feet out.*"

"But," said I, "the enigma seems still in as bad a condition as ever. How is it possible to extort a meaning from all this jargon about 'devils seats,' 'death's-heads,' and 'bishop's hotels?'"

"I confess," replied Legrand, "that the matter still wears a serious aspect, when regarded with a casual glance. My first endeavor was to divide the sentence into the natural division intended by the cryptographist.

"You mean to punctuate it?"

"Something of that kind."

"But, now, how was it possible to effect this?"

"I reflected that it had been a point with the writer to run his words together without division, so as to increase the difficulty of solution. Now, a not over-acute man, in pursuing such an object, would be nearly certain to overdo the matter. When, in the course of his composition, he arrived at a break in his subject which would naturally require a pause, or a point, he would be exceedingly apt to run his characters, at this place, more than usually close together. If you will observe the MS., in the present instance, you will easily detect five such cases of unusual crowding. Acting upon this hint, I made the division thus:

'*A good glass in the Bishop's hostel in the Devil's seat—forty-one degrees and thirteen minutes—northeast and by north—main branch seventh limb east side—shoot from the left eye of the death's head—a bee line from the tree through the shot fifty feet out.*'"

"Even this division," said I, "leaves me still in the dark."—(Continued in next issue.)

"I NEVER KNOWED."

Wm. T. Cronsdale in Puck of Jan. 7, 1885.

Old Billy B. was a pious man,
And Heaven was his goal;
For, being a very saving man,
Of course, he'd save his soul.
But even in this, he used to say,
"One can't too careful be!"
And he sang with a fervor unassumed.
"I'm glad salvation's free."

But the "means of grace" he had to own
Required good, hard-earned gold,
And he took ten pews, as well became
The richest of the fold.
"He's a noble man!" the preacher cried,
"Our Christian Brother B."
And Billy smiled as he sublet nine,
And got his own pew free.

In class meeting next, old Billy told
How Heaven had gracious been,
Yea, even back in the dark days when
He was a man of sin.
"I's buildin a barn on my river farm—
All I then had," he said,
"I'd run out o' boards, and was feedin' hands
On nothin' but corn bread.

"I'll tell ye, bretherin, that I felt blue,
Short o' timber and cash,
And thought I'd died when the banks then bust,
And flooded all my mash.
But the Lord was merciful to me,
And sent right through the rift
The tide had made in the river banks
A lumber raft adrift.

"Plenty o' boards was there for the barn,
And on top was a cheese,
And a bar'l o' pork as sound and sweet
As any one ever sees.
Then I had bread and meat for the men,
And they worked with a will,
While I thanked God, who'd been good to me,
And I'm doin' of it still."

A shrill-voiced sister cried "bless the Lord,"
The whole class cried, "Amen,"
But a keen-eyed man looked at Billy B.
In thoughtful way, and then
Asked: "Brother B, did you ever hear
Who lost that raft and load?"
And Billy wiped his eyes and said:
"Bretherin, I never knowed."

MEN AND MACHINES.

James Russell Lowell.

I made one of the crowd at the last Mechanics Fair, and, with the rest, stood gazing in wonder at a perfect machine, with its soul of fire, its boiler-heart that sent the hot blood pulsing along the iron arteries, and its thews of steel. And while I was admiring the adaptation of means to an end, the harmonious involutions of contrivance, and the never bewildered complexity, I saw a grimed and greasy fellow, the imperious engine's lackey and drudge, whose sole office was to let fall, at intervals, a drop or two of oil upon a certain joint. Then my soul said within me, "See there a piece of mechanism to which that other you marvel at is but as the rude first effort of a child—a force which not merely suffices to set a few wheels in motion, but which can send an impulse all through the infinite future—a contrivance, not for turning out pins or stitching buttonholes, but for making Hamlets and Lears. And yet this thing of iron shall be housed, waited on, guarded from rust and dust, and it shall be a crime to so much as scratch it with a pin: while the other, with its fire of God in it, shall be buffeted hither and thither, and finally sent carefully a thousand miles to be the target for a Mexican cannon ball."

MISTRESS AND MAID.

Rebecca Harding Davis in Independent.

Here are two bits of domestic history from the records of the same American family. They have that peculiar kind of interest which we find in old daguerreotypes and photographs of people of the same race. The changes in features and bearing show how the family has advanced in civilization. There are some points, too, in these little studies of domestic life which any American woman may find significant considered with reference to her own household and its foreign inmates.

In the year 1800 the Peyton farms were among the most important in Pennsylvania; indeed, Isaac Peyton was so large a landholder that he used to boast that if he chose to walk across the State from the Ohio to the Delaware, he could sleep in one of his tenants' houses every night of the journey.

The home plantation, near the Ohio, stretched over many miles of wooded hills and smiling valleys. The Peyton homestead, a large, irregular building of uncut stone, commanded a landscape of singular and noble beauty. Neither Isaac nor Mrs. Peyton had ever seen any charm in it. Nature to them gave nothing but crops and lumber; the idea of beauty had no place in their lives. The sheep walks came up to the door of the house, and the dining-room windows opened into a poultry yard, while the great untidy barns and negro cabins shouldered the house on either side.

Mrs. Peyton had not a minute in the year to study nature. She had eleven children, two or three adopted nephews, and a great household of white and negro servants. There was always some big job on hand which needed all her energy and skill. Now the pork for the use of the household during the year was to "lay down," now the beef or venison. To-day candles were to make, to-morrow soap, next week cider, apple butter or sweet wines.

The establishment was almost self-supporting. The cellars and smokehouses were filled with great stores of meat, vegetables, fruit, jellies and pickles. The rag carpets and coarse, thick bed linen were woven in the house; the medicines were brewed by Mrs. Peyton's own hand. The Peytons, like their neighbors, were heavy feeders; there were times when her family seemed to the little woman like a many-mouthed monster, perpetually crying, give, give.

She was a little woman; but she carried herself erectly, with a certain simple dignity; and she had the reticence of tongue and challenging reasonable eye of one long used to govern inferiors. She had been sent, when she was a girl, for a year to a fashionable school in Philadelphia, crossing the Alleghanies on a pack-horse. She brought back a guitar, two or three love songs, a picture of the Death of Washington, done in chenilles, and a small octavo volume, called "Polite Learning," containing abstracts of mythology, astronomy, grammar and several other branches of knowledge. This book, the chenille picture, the guitar and some wax flowers were displayed in her greate empty parlor to testify to her victories in learning and the fine arts; but they had no part in her life. Her indomitable energy, her exhaustless physical strength and all the powers of a really fine and subtle intellect, were spent in the management of her children and servants.

Mr. Peyton, once in two or three years, made a journey to Philadelphia to look after his land and to buy supplies. In 1801 he brought back with him four redemptionists, or white slaves, as they were called; poor emigrants who were sold on the block for a term of years by captains of sailing vessels to pay for their passage and outfit to this country.

"The men," he said to his wife, "are Germans; I need them in the field. The girl is English; do what you can with her."

"She is more ignorant than any negro in the house," she replied. "But as she is white she will have to work with the bound women. I wish you had not bought her, Isaac."

"She sold very cheaply, Deborah," he said.

Mrs. Peyton took a keen interest in every man or woman in her kitchens. She had stern but peculiar ideas of her duty to them. She read the Bible to the negro slaves faithfully, yet she would not teach them to read it; but she compelled her bound women to learn to read and write. These women were of a class then numerous in Pennsylvania. They were poor girls apprenticed in childhood to respectable householders, for whom they worked without wages until they were of age, when they received a suit of clothes, a feather bed, and a certain sum of money.

"The meaning of the law to me is," Mrs. Peyton said, "that I shall train the girl to be a wife and mother. I put my girls through a regular course in the kitchen, weaving room and house. When they leave me they are ready to take charge of houses of their own."

They never did leave her until they married, and afterward on great emergencies, weddings, funerals, or large parties, these women came back to their old home, humble, skilful friends and helpers. It was characteristic of the manners of the times that no matter how well to-do they might be as matrons, they were always humble friends. Mrs. Peyton was still their mistress.

The English redemptionist, Jane, after she had been cleaned and clothed, was brought to Mrs. Peyton. She was a lean, ugly girl; but the keen eyes which inspected her found both honesty and intelligence in the blue eyes and close shut mouth.

Aunt Patty, the cook, brought her in. "Dunno what kin be done wid dis yer," she said, shoving her forward by the elbow. "Can t speak Christian English an neber saw a gridiron tell to-day."

"You worked in the fields at home?" said Mrs. Peyton, kindly.

The girl nodded.

"Speak up an' say, 'Yes, madam,'" said Patty, nudging her.

"How old are you, Jane?"

"Sixteen, madam."

"Sixteen! What induced your parents to allow such a child to cross the seas alone?"

Jane began to cry and gasped out something about coming with a friend, and how they expected to be sold together.

"No; Mr. Peyton knows I did not want another woman. Very well. Put her to husking corn, Patty; she can do that."

It was a large, busy, merry household. Whatever Jane was given to do was done faithfully; but, as weeks passed, Mrs. Peyton saw that her pale face wore the same strained, hopeless look.

"What is it, child?" she said. "Don't be afraid of me; cry as much as you like; but what is it?"

"I left home to be with my friend," mumbled Jane, in her Yorkshire burr. "We thought we would be sold together — and now"—

Mrs. Peyton eyed her keenly and passed on without speaking.

"A girl," she told her husband, "does not cry that way for another woman."

Mrs. Peyton was slow and patient in her methods. She waited for months until Jane could speak more Christian English and had begun to eat her meals heartily and to sing at her work. Then she asked her one day sharply who was the man that brought her to this country, and Jane told her that it was Peter Hudnut, a neighbor's son, and that there was nothing but starvation before then at home if they married. "And we was bound to marry. We was decent folks, Mrs. Peyton," said Jane, looking straight at her, with her blue, honest eyes. "We runned away; we walked to Livepool. We thought we'd be sold together, and be married here."

"Oh, ay!" said her mistress, "Well, you're not starving here, and you're being made into a Christian creature. So put Peter Hudnut and marrying out of your head."

"To think of it!" she said to her husband. "Two human beings, with not a change of coats nor a shilling between them, starting out into an unknown world to be married because — they loved each other!"

"Adam and Eve did it before them," said Mr. Peyton.

"Don't be blasphemous, Isaac. It is a blessing you did not happen to buy Peter," said his wife, tartly.

But for some obscure reason Mrs. Peyton was better that gave more attention to the training of the quiet, dull English girl than to any of the quick-witted Americans.

"You are under no bonds to have Jane school'd," her husband said.

"I know my duty," was the sharp answer.

She was, too, especially severe with Jane in the kitchen or laundry. "I'm trying to make a Christian woman of her," she said; "and she must do her part."

Good cooking and clear starching in her opinion had much to do with the best quality of Christianity.

Mrs. Peyton found from Isaac the name of the auctioneer who had sold Jane. She had a cousin living in Philadelphia, and, during the next winter, kept up a vigorous correspondence with him. A year later she said to her husband one evening, as she sat knitting: "My brother John has come back from Philadelphia. I had a letter from him but now." John was a farmer in an adjoining county.

Mr. Peyton, who was busy with his accounts, looked up to say: "Did he have a safe journey? Did he say how wheat was selling?"

"He had no accidents. Wheat has risen a shilling in the bushel. He bought the time of a redemptionist, whom he found in New Jersey. It proves to be Peter Hudnut."

"And who, in Heaven's name, is Peter Hudnut!"

"Jane's Peter," said Mrs. Peyton, calmly unrolling her ball. "John is greatly pleased with the fellow. He is shrewd and honest."

Mr. Peyton stared at his wife and then burst into a laugh. "You are a clever woman, Deborah," he said, going back to his accounts.

Months passed before he thought again of Jane and her lover; then he asked his wife what she meant to do with them.

"I have not decided," she said. "John writes to me that Peter is a good shepherd. He will have his freedom in the fall, and John will pay him fair wages, and give him a cabin, when he can marry. But—I don't know. Jane is deficient in her Catechism. She cooks meats badly, too. I have not decided."

She did not decide for two years longer, although Isaac stirred her remembrance from time to time, saying at last:

"I would not like to make myself a God to rule the fates of human beings as you do, Deborah."

She nodded and smiled tranquilly. But she was more eager in training Jane than before. She pronounced her at last "a Christian being," well taught in her Bible and Catechism, in cooking, weaving, house and laundry work. "If your husband should be ill or die you can earn your living as a servant," she told her

"I shall never have a husband," said Jane, with the old, sad, hopeless look which so seldom came now into her pleasant face.

"Don't talk like a fool!" said Mrs. Peyton tartly. "No, husband, indeed! After all my trouble"—

The next month, her brother, Mr. John Riddle, came to visit her, bringing with him some sheep which Mr. Peyton had bought from him. Mrs. Peyton scarcely welcomed him, she was so eager to see his shepherd.

"In the stable, is he? Send him to me," she ordered a servant. "I must inspect him first—before I decide."

But as Peter Hudnut, a stout, merry-looking fellow, was crossing the green to come to her, he met two girls carrying pails of milk. He stopped.

"Why, Jean! It's never you, Jean!" he said, turning pale to his lips. Jane stood shivering, staring at him, her lips moving; but she said not a word.

"The mistress is calling you, Jane," said the other woman.

But Peter took her in his arms. "Jean has no mistress; she belongs to me," he said, the tears rolling down his rough cheeks.

They were married in Mrs. Peyton's kitchen that night, and that lady gave them a wedding feast, and afterward furnished their cabin comfortably for them.

"I made human beings of them," she said.

But Jane's was only one of many servants' lives into which she thrust her autocratic little hand to help, and sometimes to hinder.

NO DUPLICATE WANTED.

Harper's Young People.

Nôman-al-Aôuar, an Arabian king who reigned long, long ago at Hirah, commanded the architect Sennemar to build him a wondrous palace. This the architect did, and when it was done a single stone fastened the whole structure, and the colors of the walls changed frequently during the day. The king was greatly pleased, and showered all kinds of rich gifts upon the builder with the lavishness of Oriental kings. But monarchs were treacherous in those old days, and it occurred to the king that Sennemar might build a palace

equal in beauty, or even superior, for some rival ruler. The more he thought over it the more jealous he became, until one day he ordered the architect to be thrown from the top of the palace, to make certain that no duplicate palace would be made. After this the king was satisfied that his palace was the only one, and the Arabians regarded it as one of the wonders of the world.

KISS.

Good Words.

The word "kiss" is Anglo-Saxon, and may, indeed, be taken as an instance of how pleasant Anglo-Saxon can be. The philologist assures us that it is allied to the Gothic *kustus*, a proof or test, and to the Latin *gustus*, a taste; which suggests the old saying, "the proof of the pudding is the prein' o't." That same Gothic *kustus* comes from the verb *kiusan*, to choose, from which one would imagine that among the Goths kissing went by favor. According to Prof. Skeat, writing with all the austerity and scholarship of an expert, a kiss is "a gust, a taste, a something choice."

Rowena, the beautiful daughter of the Saxon Hengist, is credited with having introduced kissing into these fortunate islands; but it seems to me that had the natives been so utterly unenlightened, the Romans could hardly have failed to anticipate her. The Romans had a really delightful word for a kiss—osculum, which came from os, the mouth, and meant a little mouth, a sweet mouth. "Give me a sweet little mouth," would be the phrase used when—a good little Roman boy asked his mother for a kiss.

Our English word occurs pretty nearly in its present form in Anglo Saxon, Dutch, Icelandic, Danish, Swedish and German. And this is worthy of note, because, natural as kissing may seem to be (to many of us) it is a practice unknown to the Australians, to the Maori of New Zealand, the Papuans of New Guinea, the people of Tahiti, the negroes of Central and Southern Africa, the Botocudos of Brazil, the savages of Tierra del Fuego, the Laplanders and the Eskimo. Most of these benighted mortals have not got beyond the low stage of rubbing noses together.

AN OLD HEN'S DEPUTY.

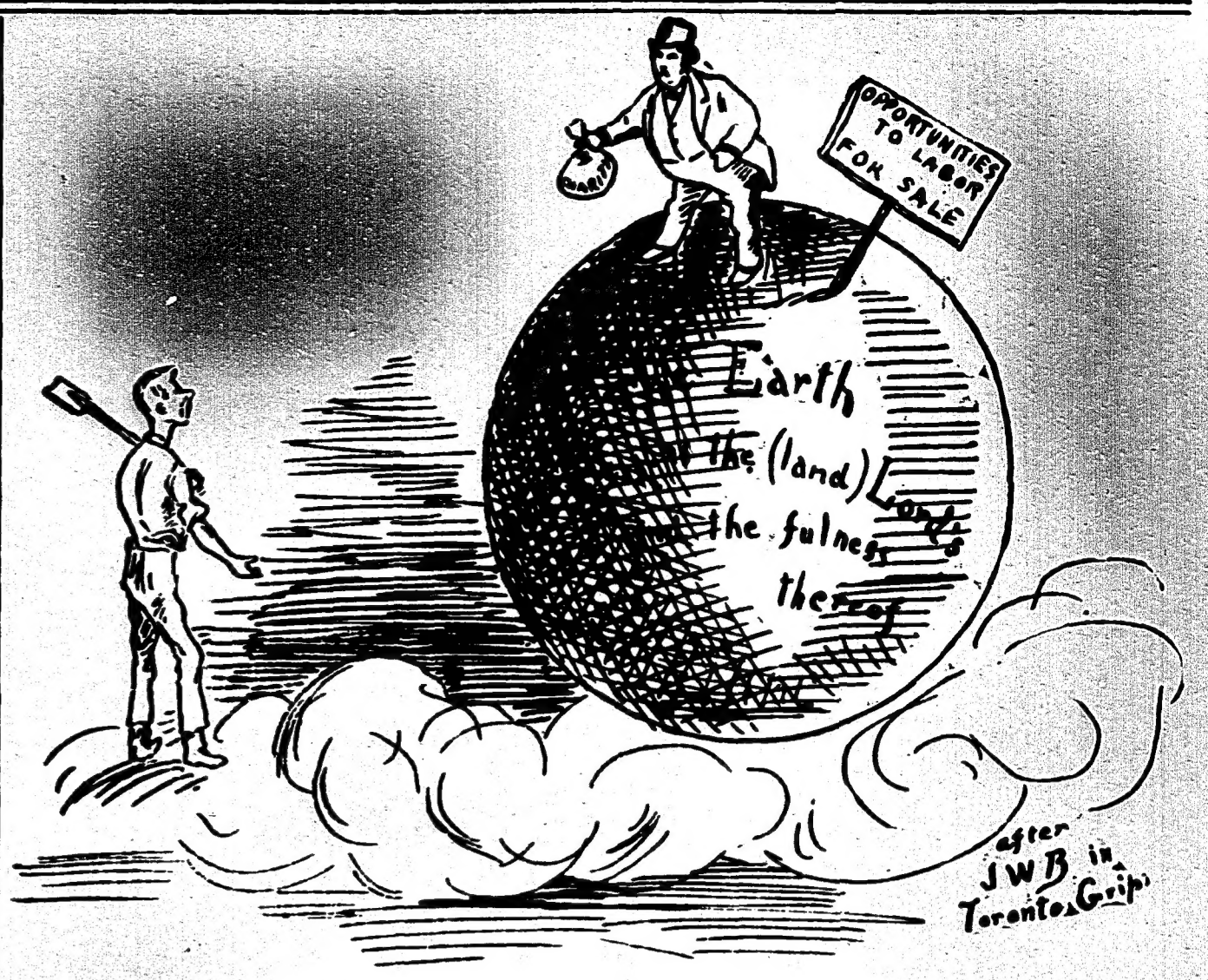
N. Y. Times.

Alfred Meredith, of Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, purchased a setting of Langshan eggs for $4.50, and placed them under a reliable old Plymouth Rock hen. He made her nest in a room over the barn, and allowed nobody to disturb her. But though she had never been known to fail in hatching out broods of ordinary farm-yard chickens of her own species, the fancy stock that her owner was now trying to produce failed to appear. With the indomitable patience that is, perhaps a hen's strongest characteristic, the Plymouth Rock brooded on the nest for a week longer than the twenty-one days usually allowed for incubation, and then, as no results were manifested, Mr. Meredith began to entertain dark suspicions of the good faith of the Buffalo dealer from whom he had purchased the eggs. Tuesday he lifted the hen off the nest to see if he could ascertain what was the cause of the delay. All that remained of the Langshan setting was a quantity of broken shells, and Mr. Meredith was very much startled to find, lying coiled and half torpid among them, a large black snake. The reptile had eaten all the eggs, and the motherly and intelligent old hen had continued to sit upon him, and kept him warm and comfortable while he digested his food. She wanted to go on sitting on his dead body after Mr Meredith had bruised his head.

CANOE LIFE.

W. P. Stephens in Lippincott's.

Modern canoeing originated with Captain John MacGregor, a traveler and explorer, familiar with nearly all the waters and boats of the world, who in his search for novel and attractive means of travel took up the crude and primitive form of decked paddling canoe once used to a small extent on English rivers, and set to work to produce from it a craft suitable for his purpose, of solitary voyages on strange waters. The result was the Rob Roy canoe, in which his notable cruises on the Rhine, the Baltic, and the Jordan were made, a craft so nearly perfect that after twenty-five years of development and improvement it still stands alone as a distinct type of modern canoe. General types by the score and special models by the hundred have since been produced, filling in the whole scale from the ten-pound paddler to the small cruising yacht, but the Rob Roy of Captain MacGregor, in the condition in which he left it, is still recognized by canoeists as one of the three or four distinctive types of cruising canoe.



A LAND ANIMAL OUT OF HIS ELEMENT.

LANDLORDISM—"Here, my poor fellow, is some charity for you. But how comes it that you don't go to work?"

LABOR—"Because nobody wants to hire me, and I cannot employ myself without paying you for the opportunity, which I am unable to do. Give me free access to land and I will not require charity."

CRYING LOST GOODS.

Harpers' Young People.

An Irish gentleman was visited one day by a friend, who found him very much vexed.

"What is the matter?" asked the visitor. "You seem much disturbed."

"I am," he answered. "I've just lost a new pair of black silk stockings out of my room, that cost me eighteen shillings."

"Have you searched everywhere?" asked the friend.

"Yes," he said, "everywhere; and not finding them I have sent for the town crier, who will cry them and offer a half-crown reward."

The friend expressed his surprise that the owner should offer so small a reward for the recovery of stockings of silk, and of such value.

"That's all right," he replied, in a confidential tone. "Nobody'll know. I ordered the crier to say they were worsted."

GREEK CHURCH EASTERS.

Christian Union.

In Russia, Easter is to the people of the Greek Church what Christmas is to the Germans. It is a day for family gatherings and for the giving of gifts. Eggs are presented, with the words, "Christ is risen." The Empress of Russia presents to all who kiss her hand on this day a decorated egg of porcelain. In Poland pyramids of hard-boiled eggs, surrounded by coils of sausage, are laid on the table; the host cuts one of the eggs in thin slices and gives a slice to each guest in turn. This ceremony is then repeated by each of the guests present.

HAPPINESS.

Clinton Scollard in Lippincott's Magazine.

The luring and elusive form we chase
Down life's long vista till our parting breath—
Who knows but that we first behold her face
The hour we look on death!

CLUMSY DODGING.

The American Farmer.

Perhaps the silliest "argument" of the advocate of monopoly tariff taxation is the final one that there is something peculiar about the United States that makes protection necessary here. From every other rampart the defenders of unjust and unwise laws can be driven. When it is shown that tariff taxes do not increase wages, they retort that laws cannot be supposed to regulate a matter that is wholly controlled by supply and demand. When it is shown that tariffs increase prices, they declare that prices are higher because wages are higher. When confronted again by proof that wages are not higher, they assert that tariffs make prices lower. When it is demonstrated that wages have increased in England under free trade, the answer is that that is due to the peculiar situation of England—a situation that demands free trade just as the American situation demands protection.

Of course, all this is the dodging of clumsy defenders of a wicked system which admits of no rational excuse or palliation. Tariffs are taxes. The taxation of everybody for the benefit of somebody is a moral wrong, and being such, it is just as reprehensible in the United States as it is in England; it is as wicked in Germany as it is in Italy. There is nothing in the situation of the United States or in the character and occupation of their people that makes a thing that is vicious in itself more praiseworthy here than it is elsewhere on this planet. To take from one man and give to another impoverishes the one and enriches the

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other, whether the men live in America, in Europe or in Asia, and there can be nothing in the government, the laws, the dress, the religion, the politics, the complexion or the stature of the men that will mitigate the injustice of the proceeding.

The chief difference between Americans and other people is that, owing to the extent and resources of their country and the absence of royalty and aristocracy, they can endure more unjust taxation than others. This does not excuse or justify the interests that are robbing them. It merely furnishes the opportunity and the plunder.

1861.

Walt Whitman.

Arm'd year! year of the struggle!
No dainty rhymes or sentimental love verses for you, terrible year!
Not you as some pale poetling, seated at a desk, lisping cadenzas piano;
But as a strong man, erect, clothed in blue clothes, advancing, carrying a rifle on your shoulder,
As I heard you shouting loud—your sonorous voice ringing across the continent;
Your masculine voice, O year! as rising amid the great cities,
Amid the men of Manhattan I saw you—as one of the workmen, the dwellers in Manhattan;
Saw I your gait and saw I your sinewy limbs clothed in blue, bearing weapons, robust year;
Year that suddenly sang by the mouths of the round-lipp'd cannon,
I repeat you, hurrying, crashing, sad, distracted year.

"I am the unluckiest man alive." "What's the matter?" "Why, I heard that she was engaged, so I went around and proposed to her so that she wouldn't think I had been trifling with her." "And wasn't she engaged?" "Yes, but she broke it off. She said my love was more sincere than his."—Life.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PLATFORM

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES AT COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, SEPT. 3, 1890.

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

We hold that each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

To carry out these principles we are in favor of raising all public revenues for national, state, county and municipal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax we propose is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax, not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc., to be determined by impartial periodical assessments. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues, not in proportion to what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.

2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.

3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.

4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalities now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions beneficent to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

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SHARON.—Sharon single tax committee. Chairman, J. J. Ryan.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington single tax league. President, Edwin Gladmon; treas., R. J. Boyd; sec'y, Wm. Geddes, M.D., 1719 G. st., n. w.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 305 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur, Hosena, 920 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 206 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 319 Lincoln av; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st, room 733.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax club of South Chicago and Cheltenham. Pres., John Black; sec., Robt. Atkinson, box K. K., South Chicago.

MASSACHUSETTS.

BROCKTON.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st. Pres., [illegible] A. McKindrick; sec., A. S. Barnard, 54 Belmont st.

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Tuesday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., H. B. Martin, Woods' block; sec., Oliver T. Erickson, 2205 Lyndale av., N.

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry R. Hoffman, chairman. This committee is pushing a State single tax petition. Blanks sent on application. It is also forming syndicate for publication of local single tax papers throughout the United States at little or no expense. Write for circulars to Percy Pepoon, sec., 513 Elm st., St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS.—Single tax league.—Meets every Friday evening 8 o'clock in Bowman Block, n. e. cor. [illegible] and Locust sts. Pres. J. W. Steele Sec'y, L. P. Cust, 4233 Connecticut st.

NEW YORK.

BROOKLYN.—Eastern District single tax club, monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, at South Third street, Brooklyn. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Brooklyn Woman's Single Tax Club meeting third Tuesday of each month at 3 P. M., at 198 Livingston street. Pres., Eva J. Turner, 506 Carlton avenue; Cor. Sec. Venie B. Havens, 219 DeKalb avenue.

OHIO.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., J. G. Gallow[illegible] sec., W. W. Kile, 108 East 5th st.

PENNSYLVANIA.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Cor. Sec., [illegible] Burleigh, 13 Willow av. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month at 4633 Main st., at 8 P. M.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society. Meets every Thursday and Sunday at 8 p. m. Social meetings second Tuesday, No. 30 South Broad st. Cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weitzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, s e corner 6th and Franklin sts. Pres., Wm. H. McKinney; sec., C. S. Priser, 1011 Penn st.

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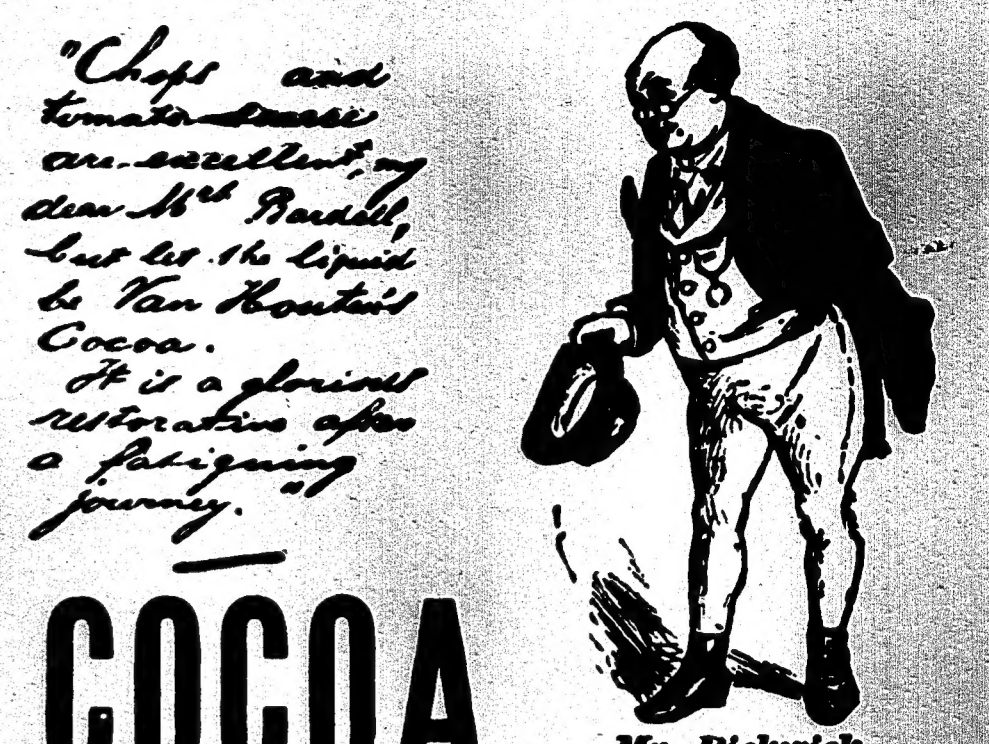

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